GMA rules out foreign exile for Estrada

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 3

Comelec tells bets what's legal, illegal

BY GERALD G. LACUARTA

THE ALLOWABLE size for leaflets, pamphlets, cards, decals and stickers, written or printed, should be 8 1/2 by 14 inches.

Anything bigger will be declared illegal, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) said yesterday at the onset of campaign season for the

COMELEC/ A20

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BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

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Gloria retires AFP chief

Contenders for Reyes' post include Espinosa, Calimlim, Villanueva

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM AND CARLITO PABLO

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has chosen not to extend the term of Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes even if she credited him for turning the tide in favor of the anti-Estrada forces during the People Power II revolt.

"Reyes will retire as chief of staff of the AFP on his (56th) birthday, March 17," Ms Macapagal said yesterday at her second formal press briefing in Malacañang.

Estrada had extended the term of Reyes to July 9, 2002 in an apparent bid to keep the general's support as his administration faltered.

Another key player in the People Power II, former Defense Secretary Fortunato Abat, had questioned Reyes' extension. He said that it was unconstitutional in the absence of a state of war or national emergency.

Like a true soldier, Reyes accepted the President's decision. His voice at times cracking, Reyes said, "I'm happy with the decision of the President."

But the INQUIRER learned that Abat and the Federation of Retired Commissioned Officers and Enlisted Soldiers (Forces) which he chairs, had pressured the President not to extend Reyes' term as it may cause demoralization in the rank and file.

Abat and Forces are also bent on blocking the appointment of Lt. Gen. Jose Calimlim, the AFP vice chief of staff, to the post to be vacated by Reyes.

As word of the President's decision circulated in military circles, the name of the Philippine Army commanding general, Lt. Gen. Diomedio Villanueva, surfaced as the most serious contender to the position that Reyes vacated.

GLORIA/ A21

PUWERSA ng M
ANGARA•Noli De CASTRO•Dra.L
to FENIX•Gringo HONASAN•Pin
MADRIGAL•Orly MERCADO•Juan
mbra

THE "UNDERDOG TEAM" is the campaign theme of the LDP, the opposition party presenting its Senate slate on Tuesday. From left: Honasan, Tamano, Puno, Angara, Enrile, Dr. Ejercito, Ople, Madrigal and Lacson. Absent are Orly Mercado, Noli de Castro, Miriam Defensor-Santiago. EDWIN BACASMAS

Loi leads 'Puwersa ng Masa'

Angara predicts pro-Estrada slate will win 7-6

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

IT'S an underdog team, but it won't be outfought.

With this theme, as well as appeals to the administration not to run its election campaign on hate, the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino yesterday launched its 12-member senatorial slate under the tentative banner of "Puwersa ng Masa."

The lilting tune of the presidential march once used by the ousted Joseph Estrada preceded the entry into the packed Club Filipino hall of his wife, Luisa "Loi" Ejercito, who had made a last-minute decision to run for the Senate.

The former first lady, accompanied by her sons Jinggoy and Jude, confessed that she knew nothing about politics and that she arrived at the decision to run after weeks of praying for guidance.

Ejercito filed her candidacy through Jinggoy, the mayor of San Juan, just min-

LOI/ A20

Militants open drive vs pro-Erap candidates

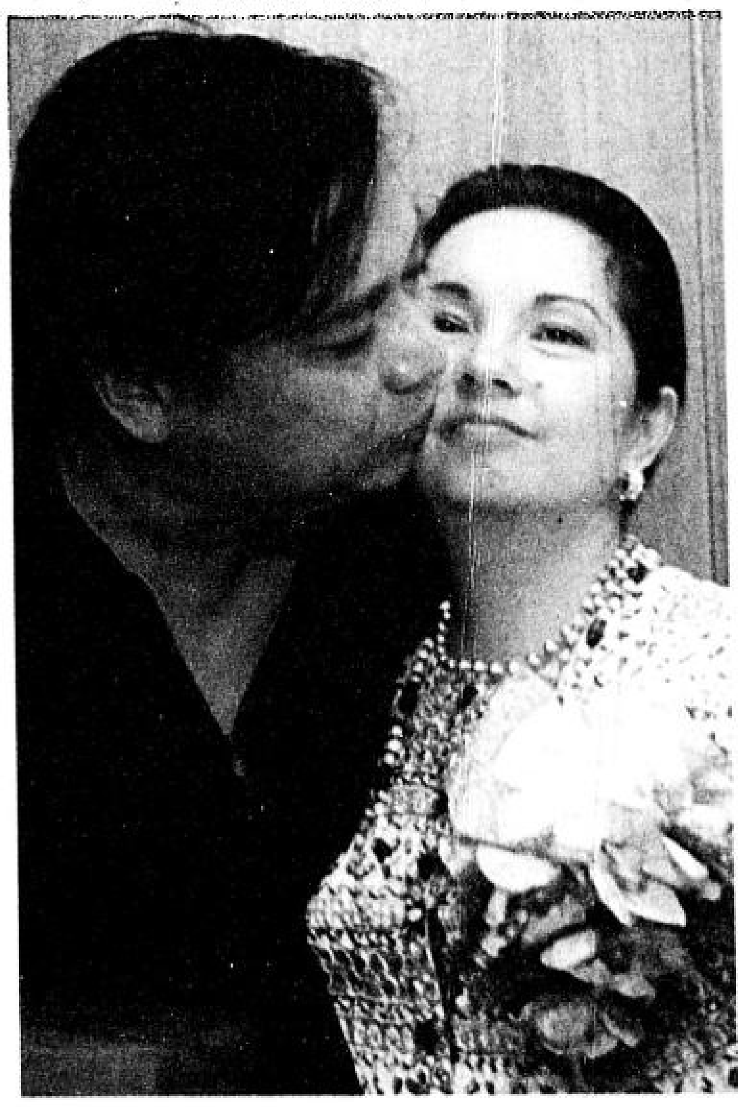
BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA AND ANDREA T. ECHAVEZ

MILITANT groups have launched a campaign against perceived traditional politicians (*trapo*), as well as members of the family of ousted President Joseph Estrada, who are running for local and national posts in the May 14 elections.

The Akbayan Citizens Action Party set up an anti-*trapo* board featuring pro-Estrada senators seeking reelection yesterday at the Edsa Shrine, site of huge rallies that led to Estrada's ouster last month.

Displayed on the board were pictures of Senators Teresa Aquino-Oreta, Juan Ponce Enrile, Francisco Tatad, Blas Ople, Gregorio Honasan, Vicente Sotto, John Osmeña, Anna Dominique Coseteng, Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Robert Jaworski and

MILITANTS/ A20



FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE EDWIN BACASMAS

Then and now: Valentine's Day is special for the First Couple. For the first time since assuming the presidency, Ms Macapagal is taking time off tonight for a date with Mike Arroyo, her husband of 32 years.

"My schedule for the evening is private, It's President's time," she laughed like a schoolgirl. This file photo was taken on the then Vice President's birthday on April 5, 1999 at the Angeles University Foundation in Pampanga.

DOJ: It's jail for Estrada after filing of cases in court

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC

OUSTED President Joseph Estrada would be jailed upon the filing of criminal charges against him in the Sandiganbayan next week, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez yesterday said.

For his part, Ombudsman Aniano Desierto said charges could be filed against Estrada, former first lady Dr. Luisa "Loi" Ejercito-Estrada and San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada in the anti-graft court as early as Monday.

The Supreme Court has scheduled tomorrow the presentation of oral arguments on Estrada's petition for a suspension of the Ombudsman's investigation of criminal complaints filed against the deposed leader.

"He will get detention. Not just house arrest. We will really arrest him," Perez said in a radio interview.

Perez brushed aside the idea of any special courtesies for the ousted President, saying that "in our Constitution, all people are equal. If we are all equal in crime, then we should all get equal treatment."

Perez added that two business

DOJ/ A19

GMA rules out Erap exile: 'This is non-negotiable'

BY DONNA S. CUETO

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday ruled out foreign exile for Joseph Estrada, saying her ousted predecessor must answer for his alleged crimes before he could hope for amnesty.

"This is non-negotiable," she said in rejecting calls from Church and political groups that Estrada be allowed to leave for abroad to spare the country from further political turmoil.

Speaking on the issue for the first time, Ms Macapagal said she would not allow Estrada to fly to Boston for a planned cataract surgery in March.

"No one is above the law. He must face his accusers in court. He must face the consequences of his action here and not in some distant shore,"

GMA RULES /A19

Go ahead, eat that chocolate

BY NORMAN BORDADORA

WHEN they give their significant others that box of chocolates on this day of love, lovers can rest assured they will not be giving him or her heart disease, bad cholesterol or even tooth decay.

What's more, it is believed the delicious, brown confection does not cause acne when eaten sensibly.

The US-based Mayo Clinic yesterday reported that lovers and chocoholics could indulge their sweet tooth on Valentine's Day without fear or guilt.

"Go ahead and indulge, occasionally. Deprivation tends to lead to overeating. And besides, studies of chocolate consumption show that not only is there room in a healthy diet for moderate amounts of the sweet stuff, it may even have

GO/ A19

ANG BAIT NAMAN NG MGA TAONG YUN... SANA KAYO RIN!

HK woman pays $6,154 for right to free giant fish

HONG KONG—A huge aging grouper got a second chance on life when a seafood dealer with a sentimental fondness for big fish sold it for HK$68,000 (US$8,718) to a woman who set it free.

HK/ A20

KAYANG-KAYA ANG KALABAN!

'THEY DON'T NEED ME'

Gloria won't campaign hard

By Armand N. Nocum

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said she was not going to aggressively campaign for the 13 senatorial candidates of the People Power Coalition (PPC) as tradition dictated.

Her reasons: the PPC fielded strong candidates who hardly needed her help and somebody had to "mind the store."

"*Ang galing-galing nila. Hindi nila ako kailangan* (They are very, very good. They don't need me anymore)," she said.

Still, she said, she might campaign for the candidates and go with them "once in a while," but stressed that the business of government comprised first priority.

"My first responsibility is to deliver good governance. This government is new, it has so many problems. The political acts of the President should not get in the way of what need to be done," she said in mixed English and Pilipino.

Ms Macapagal also dismissed as of little importance the entry of former first lady Loi Ejercito in the senatorial derby.

"No, it's not," she said in reply to a question whether she viewed Ejercito's candidacy as a "matter of concern."

In a press briefing at the Palace, Ms Macapagal said that the task of reversing the negative economic growth brought about by the Estrada government was her utmost concern at this time.

"Somebody has to take care of the store. And I will do that. That's my main responsibility," she said.

In a statement at the start of the briefing, Ms Macapagal said she had inherited a "tattered economy" and that she had a "very serious problem of governance."

She declined to make any "fearless forecast" about the prospects of the PPC's Senate candidates.

"I don't have a crystal ball. And as an economist and social scientist, as somebody who does not like to brag, I am usually prudent about forecasts. We will try our best," she said.

But she did say that "in the short term, I wish that my candidates will win."

MACAPAGAL

Further on, she said, she hoped that they could finally bring about the return of the "two-party system" established under the Aquino administration.

"This is the way in which we can promote a new politics of party platform," she said.

She said she was leaving the handling of the political campaign to Vice President Teofisto Guingona, the party's campaign manager.

For his part, Guingona said he was also optimistic that the PPC candidates would take the May elections by storm owing to their reform-oriented platform.

"The theme of our campaign would be to learn and live the lessons of People Power that led to Edsa II. And so the theme of accountability, the theme of '*Gobyerno para sa serbisyo, hindi para sa negosyo* (Government for service, not for business)' will be held up during the campaign," he said.

"That is the message we would like to bring to the people and I think the people will respond to that," he said.

'I didn't forget the Muslims'

By Armand Nocum and Christine Avendaño

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday disputed the claim that she had deprived Muslims a representation in the administration's senatorial slate because she did not give a slot to former senator Santanina Rasul.

"I did not forget the Muslim component because there is a Muslim for the first time in a major Cabinet position, the Department of Public Works and Highways," Ms Macapagal said in a press briefing.

The President had earlier appointed former House deputy speaker Simeon Datumanong as head of the DPWH.

"I said we have to look at the whole thing in the context of the whole government. If I could have 14 candidates, she will be one of them," she said.

She also pointed out that for the first time since the term of her father President Diosdado Macapagal, the vice president again hailed from Mindanao in the person of former Sen. Teofisto Guingona.

She also said that although people in the South expected to have only three representatives in the Cabinet, "they now have about seven Cabinet members who come from Mindanao."

But Rasul would not be appeased.

Yesterday, she prepared to bolt the Lakas-NUCD Party for not including a Muslim like her in the Senate slate of the People Power Coalition (PPC) and run as a guest candidate in the Partido Demokratikong Pilipino-Laban.

Impeachment prosecutor named solicitor general

By Donna S. Cueto and Philip C. Tubeza

THE PRIVATE prosecutor who conducted the direct examination of Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, the main witness in the impeachment trial of ousted President Joseph Estrada, has been appointed Solicitor General.

Simeon Marcelo, reputed to be a top litigation lawyer from the Carpio, Villaraza, Cruz law office, bested several names being floated for the post, including Rep. Sergio Apostol, the lead House prosecutor during the impeachment trial.

President Macapagal-Arroyo announced two other appointments yesterday: that of Resurreccion Borra as Commission on Elections commissioner and retired Gen. Edgardo Abenina as assistant secretary in the transportation department and chief of the Land Transportation Office.

Abenina, who was convicted for being one of the leaders of a series of coups against the Aquino government, was recommended by Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez.

At the LTO turnover ceremonies yesterday, Abenina declared as his first priority a review of the controversial program requiring drivers to undergo drug tests.

Marcelo will replace Solicitor General Ricardo Galvez, an Estrada appointee, who had been a former justice of the Court of Appeals.

Ms Macapagal said she had not yet decided on whom to appoint to the two other vacant Comelec posts, one of which the chairman to replace Harriet Demetriou.

She said she was still praying over the decision.

"The best advice is the advice that will come from the voice of God… So I am praying," she said.

Jose Concepcion Jr., chair of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections, welcomed the appointment of Borra, a retired Comelec commissioner whom Namfrel had recommended.

"He knows the rules and regulations of the elections by heart," said Concepcion. "What we now need is a good chairman."

Namfrel has recommended former Rizal Rep. Emigdio Tanjuatco as Comelec chair, and Chito Gascon, a former Constitutional Commission delegate, for the other vacant post of commissioner.

One more time, 'FPJ' for senator

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

A 64-YEAR-OLD man whose name closely resembles that of a wildly popular action star went to the Commission on Elections at exactly 12 midnight on Monday to officially declare his intention to run, cementing his "record" as always the last to file his certificate of candidacy.

Fernando Po Jr. thus landed last on the list of 67 aspiring senators who filed their certificates of candidacy with the Comelec on Monday, a fact which he prominently featured in his four-page biodata.

Po stated that he was the last candidate to file a certificate of candidacy for senator in the 1995 elections, and again for president in 1998.

As if close proximity to the name of the popular movie star, Fernando Poe Jr., was not enough, Po wrote down his name as Fernando "Jose" Po Jr., apparently after another popular actor, Fernando Jose, the star of the Mexican soap opera, "Rosalinda."

Po listed his residence at Po Bldg., corner 2nd and 3rd sts., Nazareth, Cagayan de Oro City. He said he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Xavier University and Ateneo de Cagayan.

Some Comelec clerks actually waited for Po to show up. After 12 midnight, text messages circulated announcing that "Fernando Po Jr." had filed his candidacy.

Edsa coalition train not yet rolling

EVERYBODY's on board and raring to go, but the People Power Coalition's train apparently can't seem to get going yet.

For one, the coalition still has to establish its national headquarters to coordinate the election campaign, according to sources in the party.

They also revealed that no schedules of political rallies had been set, except for their "tentative" first one in Bulacan on Thursday.

But Lakas campaign manager Bobby Sanchez, asked in a phone interview where exactly the rally would be held, admitted that he still did not know where.

Asked if they had a campaign plan up to May 14, Sanchez said, "That's being done by officials involved."

However, when asked who were the coalition officials involved in the planning, Sanchez admitted that he still did not know the answer.

"I still don't know them (the officials involved). We're waiting for directives upstairs," he said.

For now, he said, they would be using the LTA building on Perea Street in Makati as the coalition's headquarters. He added that Vice President Teofisto Guingona would be the coalition's general campaign manager and assisted by Joey Rufino.

Batanes Rep. Florencio "Butch" Abad, in a talk with reporters, also said that Guingona would be the over-all campaign manager, adding that the task of handling the day-to-day campaign might be given to Paul Aquino.

He also said that the slate would be divided into three teams of at least four senatorial candidates each.

He also said that President Macapagal-Arroyo would also campaign for the slate from time to time.

Former Quezon City Rep. Michael Defensor, in another phone interview, admitted that they still had to iron out kinks in the campaign.

To boost the campaign, he said, Cabinet members might join the campaign.

"I myself would be campaigning for those who participated in the impeachment trial," he said.

Makati Rep. Joker Arroyo said he was deluged with offers to speak at schools but said that he had to consult with the campaign headquarters regarding clash of schedules.

"I have a feeling my main support now is from the students. I've received invitations to speak, mostly in colleges, " Arroyo said.

"I have to coordinate now with national headquarters but it hasn't been formed," he added. ***Martin Marfil***

Jessica's pa rules out suicide

By Leoncio Balbin Jr.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

STA. CRUZ, Ilocos Sur—It could not have been suicide.

This was the reaction of the father of 2nd Lt. Jessica Chavez to the death of his daughter, a 22-year-old graduate of the Philippine Military Academy.

Jessica, a member of the PMA Sanghaya Class of 2000, was found dead in her barracks at Fort Bonifacio last Friday morning.

"We are still waiting for the results of the investigation by the police and the National Bureau of Investigation. We are however sure that it is impossible that our daughter committed suicide," Efren Chavez told the INQUIRER.

Jessica was on her first assignment as first platoon leader of the Second Military Police Company at the Army headquarters.

Chavez said Army officials had informed them that his daughter could have been a victim of an accident.

A source from the Army told the INQUIRER in Manila that Jessica might have been cleaning or playing with her gun when it went off. Or, the source said, her wound could have been "self-inflicted."

The victim's mother, Melwida, appealed to investigators to uncover the mystery surrounding her daughter's death.

"We just want to know what really happened on that fateful day," she said.

Mrs. Chavez, Padaoil barangay captain, said that at 9 p.m. of Feb. 8, she received a text message from her daughter informing her that she would come home soon: "*Mama pauwi na ako he! he! he!* (Mama I'm going home)."

She was shocked when she received a call at around 7 a.m. the next day from Army Capt. Randolf Foronda, the victim's senior officer, asking her to go to Metro Manila because Jessica was in serious condition.

Her husband later called Maj. Ramon Dizon, Jessica's commanding officer, who informed him that their daughter was dead.

Her body was taken here on Monday morning.

Before Jessica's death, her colleagues believed that she was exchanging text messages with MSgt. Ernesto Nevado of the Army's communications office. ***With a report from Michael Ubac***

De Guzman, 78

Businessman Teodoro "Teddy" L. de Guzman passed away on Monday at the Metropolitan Hospital after a lingering illness. He was 78.

His remains lie at the Arlington Memorial Chapel. Interment will be announced later.

Lydia de Vega's son killed by jeep

DRIVER Knorlee T. Valiente drove his jeepney yesterday into the narrow streets of Project 4, Quezon City, to avoid the early morning traffic jam along Aurora Avenue.

But the 24-year-old driver was not able to avoid hitting with his jeepney the 4-year-old son of former Asia sprint queen Lydia de Vega.

Valiente, of Block 6 Lot 11, Vently Park, Cogeo, Antipolo City, voluntarily surrendered to the authorities after he ran over victim John Michael Mercado, of 2 Unrubia St., Project 4, Quezon City yesterday morning, said traffic enforcer Jaime Ramos, of the Quezon City Traffic Sector III.

Valiente was driving his Isuzu passenger jeepney (with plate number DWL-811) to Cubao from Cogeo around 8:30 a.m. when the tragedy happened, Ramos added.

The boy was then playing on Cabesas Extension, an alleyway right in front of their house. Just as the jeepney was about to pass by the victim's home, John Michael ran back to the house and smack into the vehicle. ***Philip Tubeza***

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'PUTTING ISSUE AT REST'

2nd envelope opened today

By C. Avendaño

THE CONTROVERSIAL second envelope said to contain potentially damaging evidence on corruption against ousted President Joseph Estrada will be unsealed today and turned over to the Office of the Ombudsman.

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr., who will open the envelope at his Senate office at 10 p.m. today, told reporters that Ombudsman Aniano Desierto will be witnessing the opening and recording of the contents of the envelope.

The second envelope, said to contain documents on Estrada's alleged P3.3-billion account with Equitable PCI-Bank, was never opened during the aborted impeachment trial because Senate allies of Estrada voted on Jan. 16 to block it.

The vote triggered the public outrage that led to the ouster of Estrada by a people's uprising and the installation of then Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as the new President.

Prosecutors in Estrada's impeachment trial claimed the envelope contained records linking him to secret bank accounts worth billions of pesos in alleged ill-gotten wealth.

Last week, the Senate approved Resolution No. 927 which declared the impeachment court closed and allowed the opening of the second envelope.

The same senator-allies of the ousted Estrada who had voted to block the opening of the envelope have been pressing for its unsealing. According to Pimentel, the second envelope was being unsealed "to preclude the conclusion that the Senate is a tool for the cover-up of what is contained in envelope no. 2."

PIMENTEL

"We should put the issue to rest publicly and on record," the Senate President said.

Pimentel said he couldn't care less about the contents of the envelope, noting that "the important thing is we open the envelope so that all speculations will disappear."

Pimentel said the contents of the envelope would be turned over to Desierto whose office has launched a criminal probe into allegations of massive corruption against Estrada.

Estrada had been impeached by the House in November and was being tried on charges of bribery, graft and corrupt practices, betrayal of public trust and culpable violation of the Constitution in the Senate.

A conviction in the Senate trial would have removed him constitutionally. *With a report from AFP*

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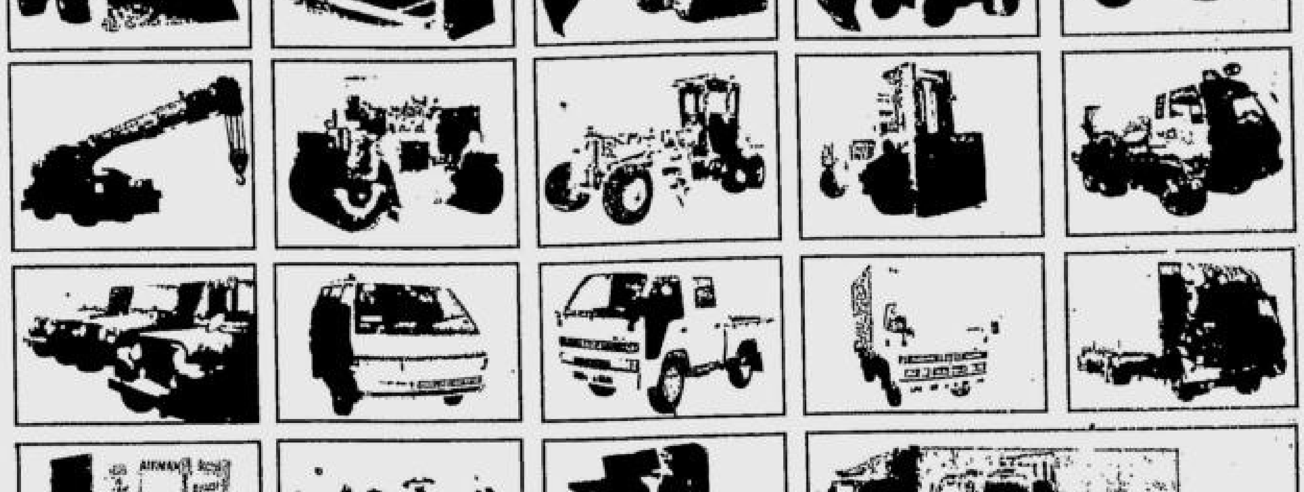

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Iglesia sticks to birth control

By N. Bordadora

EVEN as the Macapagal-Arroyo administration has indicated it would collaborate with the Catholic Church in promoting responsible parenthood through natural means of contraception, one of the most powerful Christian sects in the country has remained steadfast in promoting condom use among its members.

Aside from the use of prophylactics, the Iglesia ni Cristo has and still advocates the use of the intra-uterine device, injectable contraceptives, oral contraceptives, vasectomy, tubal ligation and other forms of artificial contraception to avoid unwanted pregnancies and the need for the "sinful act of abortion."

The INC, which votes as one solid bloc of in every election, has eschewed the Catholic Church-sanctioned rhythm method, saying it is not as effective as artificial contraceptives and could still lead to unwanted pregnancies.

"Rhythm or the so-called 'natural method' is also rejected by the Iglesia ni Cristo because it is contrary to nature," said Bienvenido Santiago, a spokesperson and minister of the INC in a published article. A check with the INC hierarchy showed that the group still adheres to that position.

"The (rhythm) method allows sexual intercourse during periods when the woman naturally has the least desire for it and prohibits it at the time when she naturally has the desire for it," said Santiago.

Aside from the use of condoms as a form of birth control, Santiago said the INC is also advocating the use of vasectomy, tubal ligation, intra-uterine device (IUD), oral contraceptives and the currently popular injectables.

"Since there is no presence of human life yet these methods do not involve the killing of an existing human being," the INC official said.

Santiago said, however, that married couples should be well advised to "seek medical advice on the medico-physical aspects of these contraceptive devices to avoid adverse complications."

"The Iglesia ni Cristo believes that a sound family planning program is a way of promoting the general welfare of its members. The program benefits the mother, the children, the father, the family and, practically, the whole country," Santiago said.

At present, hundreds of thousands of INC members worldwide subscribe to this principle.

"The Iglesia firmly believes that with family planning, the government will be better able to provide adequate housing, food, education, medical and social services to the people," Santiago said.

Erratum

In the half-page tribute of **Arthur W. Antonino** to his former senator father, **Gaudencio E. Antonino** (Feb. 12, 2001, page A7), their names were inadvertently misspelled. Our apologies.

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Talks to proceed despite NPA attack–Reyes

PEACE negotiations with communist insurgents will proceed despite a daring rebel raid that left 10 government troops dead, Armed Forces chief General Angelo Reyes said yesterday.

Reyes said the Monday attack by the New People's Army on an army patrol base in eastern Samar island was a "minor incident" that would not derail upcoming peace negotiations.

"The general direction remains. This incident should not derail the reconstruction of the peace talks," Reyes told reporters.

He said however that pursuit operations were continuing against NPA rebels who swooped on the army outpost in the village of Babaclayun on Monday.

He said two NPA guerrillas were killed and several firearms recovered by troop reinforcements dispatched to the area after the attack, which came just days after President Macapagal-Arroyo named the members of the peace negotiating panel.

"We consider this as only a minor incident to hamper the negotiations," Reyes stressed.

The NPA is the armed wing of the underground Communist Party of the Philippines, which pulled out of talks in 1999 in protest over Manila's ratification of a military training accord with the US.

The rebels have offered to release an Army major and a police inspector they separately snatched that year as a goodwill gesture in exchange for dozens of jailed comrades.

Ms Macapagal when she assumed office last month immediately ordered a resumption of talks with insurgent groups, including the NPA and the Muslim separatist group Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Meanwhile, the military's southern command reported yesterday that troops seized an NPA camp in Davao del Sur at the weekend and captured 12 guerrillas, who surrendered without a fight. *AFP*

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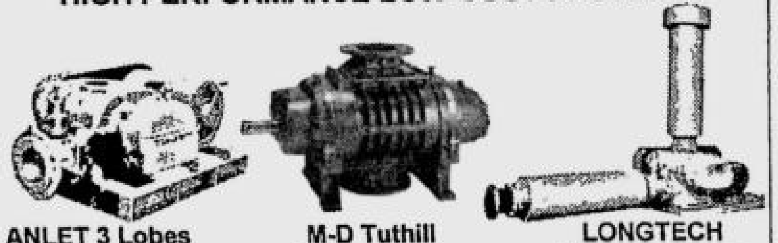

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So strong was his conviction, his fight against this evil caused him a spot on any party slate for his reelection. He then announced on August 13, 1967 that he would seek the people's mandate as an independent candidate, a move that was until then considered as political suicide.

On November 13, 1967 he was killed in a helicopter crash in Dolores, Quezon, one day before elections.

The Filipino people re-elected him, posthumously so to speak, by giving his widow a very convincing win.

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As the eldest son, **I pledge to continue my father's legacy.** And I will ensure that my children and my children's children will.

Even if others cannot. Even if others will not.

Happy Birthday, Daddy. I love you.

ARTHUR W. ANTONINO

ADVT

MENDOZA

'They're after my post'

PNP chief says group out to portray him as 'bad guy'

By Jerry Esplanada

"THEY are not after me. They're after my post."

Deputy Director General Leandro Mendoza, acting Philippine National Police chief, was referring to a "group" which he did not identify.

Mendoza was professing innocence of charges of wrongdoing leveled at him soon after he assumed his post and at the same time trying to provide the motive behind the charges.

Is the "group" after his post a faction in the PNP command? A political clique identified with disgraced President Estrada? Mendoza did not say.

"What they're doing is becoming very obvious. And the timing is suspect. Because they know that the role of the chief PNP is very crucial, very strategic in the May elections," Mendoza told the INQUIRER.

Interviewed at the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame, Mendoza said he strongly believed "some people are behind all these moves to oust me."

Mendoza also said anti-crime activists Carina Agarao and Teresita Ang See were being used by the same group in "hitting me, in portraying me as a bad guy, a criminal."

"They have hurled a lot of accusations against me and these are very serious," said Mendoza, a member of PMA Class 1969 and former executive director of the Philippine Center for Transnational Crimes.

Agarao is the president of the Crusade Against Violence while Ang See heads the Citizens Action Against Crime.

"These women are also being used, being victimized. Like me, they're also victims," Mendoza said.

Agarao, in a phone interview, denied Mendoza's claim. "He knows that's not true. I know what I'm fighting for. I'm fighting for justice," she said.

Ang See for her part said Mendoza was "not acceptable to us."

"And no matter what we say for or against (former PNP chief Gen. Panfilo) Ping Lacson, that chapter is already closed. We told Executive Secretary Renato de Villa that anyone in the PNP directorial staff is acceptable to us, except Mendoza. So why insist on somebody with a tarnished image?" Ang See said.

'Old issues'

Agarao had earlier said Malacañang erred in naming Mendoza as acting PNP chief, replacing Lacson.

She said she opposed Mendoza's appointment "mainly because he has been linked several times to kidnapping cases and his being a regular patron of casinos."

Agarao also accused Mendoza of coddling a Hector Samonte, the alleged mastermind in the April 30, 1996 murder of her husband, lawyer and former Lumban, Laguna vice mayor Clarence Agarao.

Mendoza, she claimed, was also responsible for the Jan. 20 escape of Luisito San Juan, the confessed killer of her husband.

Mendoza denied the accusation. He said, "What they're doing is really unfair. They're reviving old issues. They talk of 1986, they talk of 1993, they talk of 1995 and 1997. Old issues."

"I'm willing to face any kind of investigation. If they really have sufficient evidence against me, then they should bring them before the proper forum. We cannot resolve the accusations through no other forum than the courts. If there are cases against me then I will answer them officially in the courts. But are there such cases?" Mendoza asked.

Mendoza assured his critics that he had "always been fair in my dealings."

He added, "In this fight, the one who drops his composure loses. And one more thing, I don't argue with women."

No cases

A check with the Office of the Ombudsman disclosed that Mendoza faced no pending criminal and administrative cases at the office.

In September 1996, the Senate blue ribbon committee said in a report there was "no sufficient evidence to link (Mendoza and several other top PNP officials like Chief Superintendents Ramsey Ocampo, Rufino Ibay Jr. and Angel Quizin) to a scam involving more than P100 million in police intelligence funds.

In February 1997, the National Police Commission cleared Mendoza and fellow generals Reynaldo Wycoco and Hermogenes Ebdane of "any wrongdoing in the absence of any evidence that will link them with the illegal activities of the Solido robbery gang.

But Agarao still believes that the PNP chief is not clean. "In the context of the Philippine justice system, acquittal does not connote innocence. One can be acquitted due to technicalities. Witnesses can easily be threatened and be made to disappear," she said.

Agarao also assailed Interior Secretary Jose Lina Jr. for clearing Mendoza of accusations he has links to kidnapping and smuggling syndicates. "The move is grossly unfair to the interest of the people. How can they do that in the morning just after the President promised us she would order Secretary Lina to look deeper into the allegations?" she said.

In taking up the cudgels for Mendoza, Executive Secretary Renato de Villa said a DILG team had conducted a transparent investigation and had "done their jobs the best they could."

"At some point, we'll have to say this is it. We don't have the luxury of time to pause. We cannot stop here just because some people want Mendoza out," said De Villa.

Following a brief stint in 1993 as PNP director for intelligence, Mendoza served as regional director for Southern Tagalog and then Metro Manila. He also served as Constabulary commander in Cebu, Rizal, Pangasinan and Bulacan.

Mendoza's career in the military and the PNP earned him the Distinguished Conduct Star in 1989, the second highest AFP award for gallantry. He also received five Distinguished Service Medals and a Bronze Cross Medal for bravery.

"And now some people portray me as a criminal. I guess that's life. You can't really win them all," Mendoza said.

Edsa players head new-look People Power Commission

By Christian V. Esguerra

KEY players in the people's uprising that ousted President Joseph Estrada are the leading figures in the new-look People Power Commission that is responsible for organizing the annual Edsa celebration.

Bayan secretary general Teodoro Casiño and anti-Estrada "running priest" Fr. Robert Reyes, representing the militant groups, have been appointed members of the 25-person body.

Finance Secretary Alberto Romulo is to head the commission. With the recent Edsa II event, the commission will be holding two successive programs at the Our Lady of Edsa Shrine starting next year.

The first program will celebrate the first Edsa of 1986, which toppled dictator Ferdinand Marcos. The second will commemorate the recent people power uprising that ousted Estrada, said commissioner Lourdes Siytangco.

Bishop Teodoro Bacani was reappointed by President Macapagal-Arroyo but the prelate begged off, Siytangco told the INQUIRER.

Bacani functions as an adviser to the El Shaddai charismatic movement that is closely identified with Estrada.

Romulo replaced former finance secretary Jose Pardo as commission chair. Businessman Ramon del Rosario, himself a former commissioner, is vice chair, replacing Antonio Lopa.

The new commission is an interesting mix of Edsa II personalities, with leaders from the Church, business, the youth, Mindanao and militant groups.

Bambam Aquino is supposed to represent the youth, and former Maguindanao congressman Michael Mastura, Mindanao.

Mastura replaced former Laguna governor Joey Lina, who is now Interior Secretary, while Aquino assumed the post of Victoria Garchitorena, the new chief of the Presidential Management Staff.

Reyes replaced Bacani while Casiño took over Del Rosario's post.

Siytangco said the new appointments were made immediately after Ms Macapagal assumed office. The new appointees have yet to be sworn in, she added.

A few days before Edsa II broke out, majority of the commission's members resigned in a formal expression of their withdrawal of support from Estrada, Siytangco said.

Those who did not resign were Makati Rep. Agapito "Butch" Aquino, Jose Concepcion, Lourdes Pimentel, Luz Emmanuel Soriano, Pardo and Lopa, Siytangco said.

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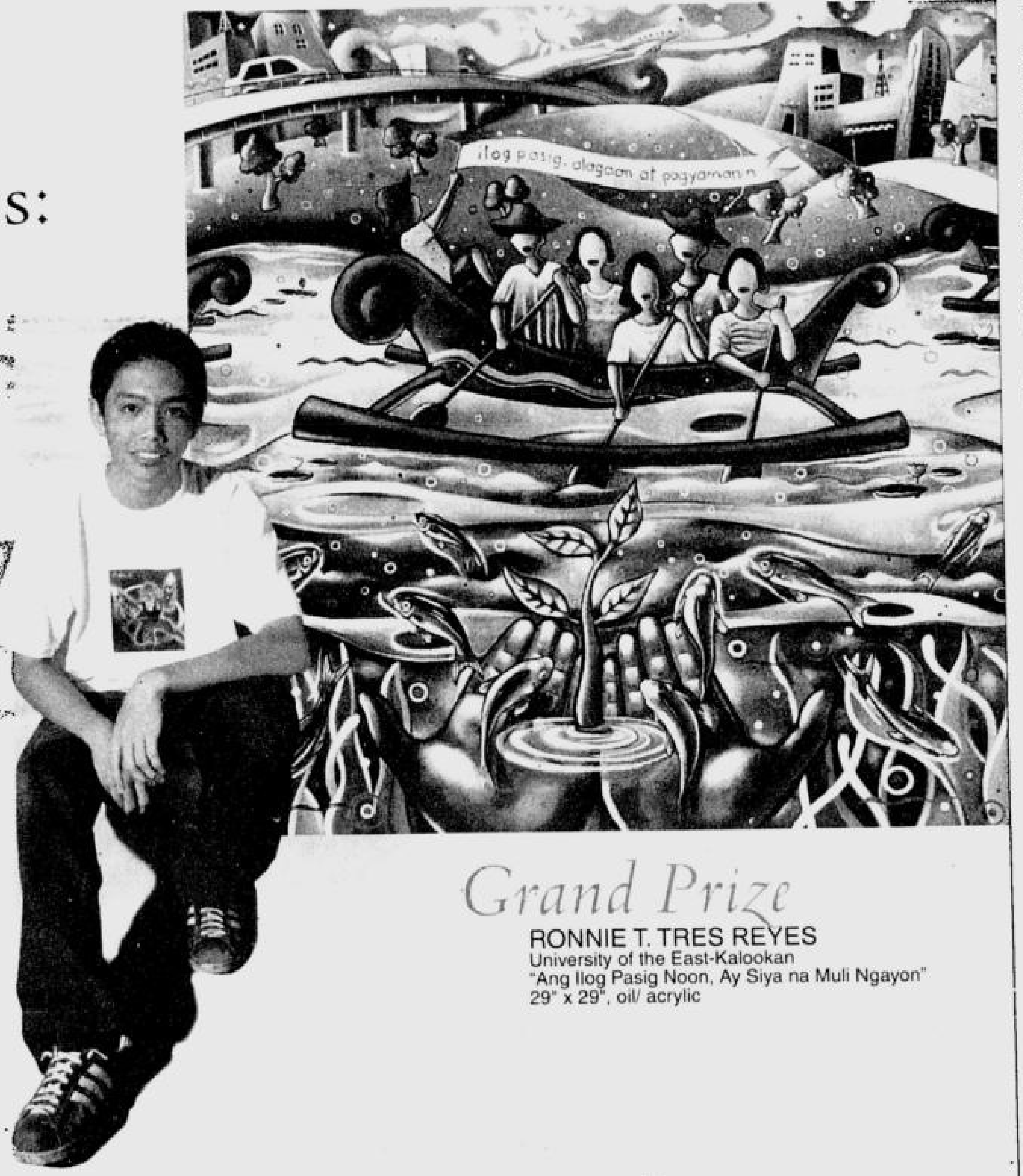

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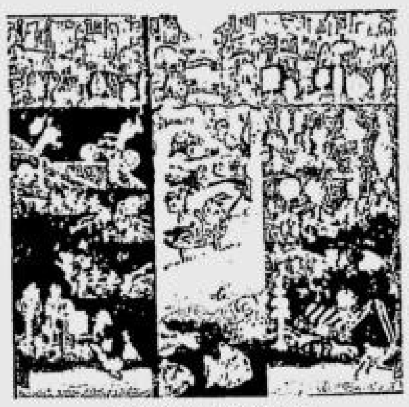
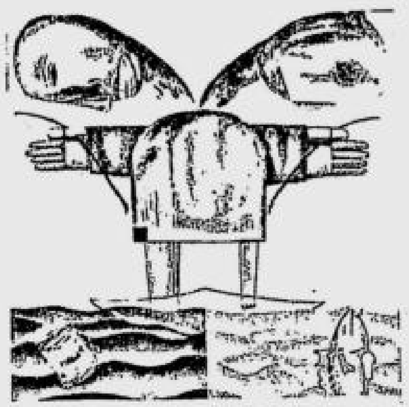


3rd RICKY V. AMBAGAN
University of the Philippines-Diliman
"Ilog Mo, Ilog N'yo, Pananagutan Ko"
29" x 29", mixed media



4th ISAGANI C. MONJE
Technological University of the Philippines
"Panumbalikin ang Dating Sigla Tungo sa Kinabukasan ng Bawat Isa..."
29" x 29", oil on canvas

5th CONCHITA Z. LUZARRAGA
College of the Holy Spirit
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The Yellow Pages

DFA career execs denounce 2 Romulo men in Washington

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

TWO political appointees occupying top positions in the Philippine Embassy in Washington and who are associated with former foreign secretary Roberto Romulo have earned the ire of career diplomats.

In a four-page manifesto issued yesterday, the career officers denounced the appointment of Victor Gosiengfiao and Jose Maria "Jay-Jay" Ebro III as senior foreign affairs adviser and foreign affairs adviser, respectively, and their assignment abroad.

The career officers said the two were not qualified to become foreign affairs advisers.

They also protested the fact that Gosiengfiao and Ebro were given the rank and corresponding salary of a career foreign service officer (FSO) even though they did not pass the foreign service examinations.

Insult to career men

"We career officers strongly protest the assignment to a foreign post and designation as ministers of Mr. Jose Maria Ebro III and Victor S. Gosiengfiao. We also protest the grant to them of foreign service officer status and ranks equal to FSO IV and FSO II, respectively," the manifesto said.

"It is a clear insult to the career diplomats in the post... for it implies that the career ministers do not have the qualities to fulfill the responsibilities they are charged to perform," it added.

The manifesto was circulated at the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

Acting Foreign Secretary Lauro Baja Jr., reported to have approved the questioned appointments, was not available for interview yesterday.

A DFA source confirmed that Gosiengfiao and Ebro were deployed as "ministers for representational purposes" at the embassy in the US capital.

"We know them to be Romulo boys," said the source, referring to the former secretary who served under the Ramos administration.

President Macapagal appointed Romulo as one of her special envoys.

Advisers

Other sources said Gosiengfiao and Ebro had worked in the embassy as "advisers" during the Ramos administration.

They were however replaced by former senator Ernesto Maceda who took with him two of his aides as "foreign service advisers" when he became ambassador to the United States under the Estrada administration.

In their manifesto, the career diplomats questioned Gosiengfiao and Ebro's alleged lack of qualifications to become foreign service advisers.

They said the special positions were traditionally given to either retired diplomats or experts in international issues.

"Neither Mr. Ebro nor Mr. Gosiengfiao is an acknowledged expert in any field of diplomacy or international law or issues.

"Mr. Ebro is a former newspaperman with a very limited experience in journalism while Mr. Gosiengfiao is not known to have had any experience in international relations which qualify him to be counselor (to the DFA secretary)," the manifesto noted.

'Anomalous practice'

The career officers admitted that while foreign affairs advisers were not allowed under the law to be assigned abroad, such "anomalous practice" was tolerated during the two previous administrations.

"Since neither Mr. Ebro nor Mr. Gosiengfiao qualifies under the law to be assigned abroad or to hold the ranks of FSOs or to be designated as ministers, their appointments or any documents naming them as such are clearly invalid and illegal," they said.

The career diplomats also called on President Macapagal to keep faith with her vow during the Vin D'honeur that "non-career appointments will only be made at the ambassadorial level" based solely on competence.

"We believe that people around the President should not undermine her noble purpose, lest we sink into the same quagmire of cronyism and corruption that befell the previous administration," the manifesto said.

CHEd bats for socialized tuition

THE COMMISSION on Higher Education has asked all state universities and colleges to study the feasibility of implementing a socialized tuition scheme amid the huge cuts in the education budget this year.

CHEd chair Ester Garcia issued the memorandum encouraging the consultations for the socialized scheme in December while House of Representatives was still hot on deliberations for the 2001 budget and the Senate was preparing for the impeachment trial.

Garcia said the proposal for socialized tuition scheme was based on the provisions of Republic Act 8292, known as the Higher Education Modernization Act, which allowed the tertiary schools to raise their tuition as long as there are consultations with students.

"This office hereby requests all concerned to conduct a study on the possible implementation of the socialized Tuition Fee Scheme in your respective state universities and colleges," Garcia said in the memo dated Dec. 5.*Blanche S. Rivera*

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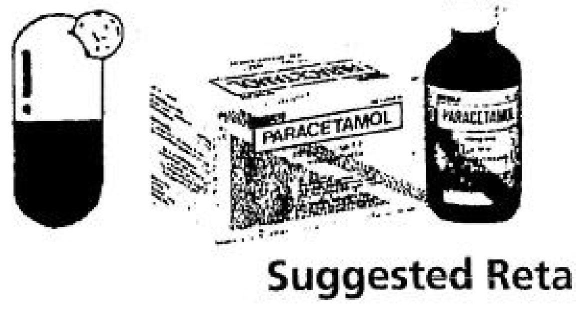

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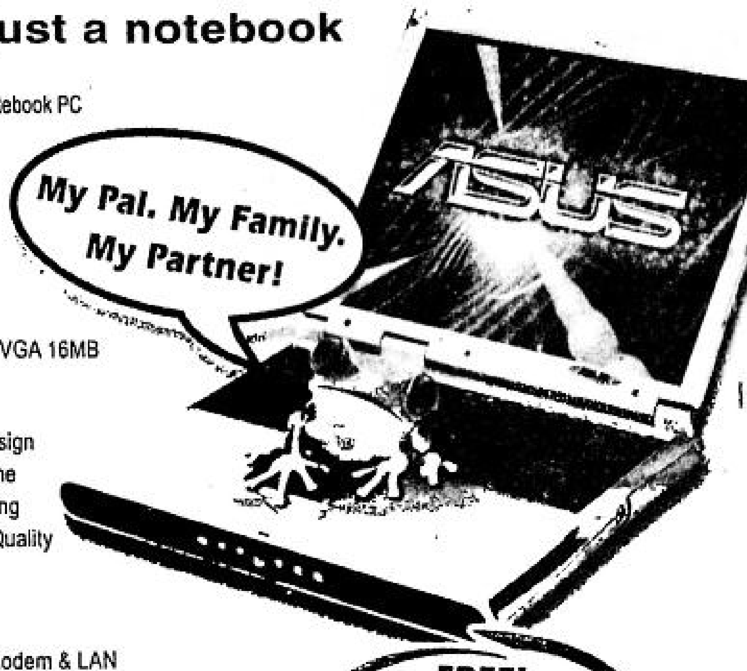

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Battle of personalities

EDITORIAL

IT isn't 1988 when "Cory Magic" could transform country bumpkins into senators. But even though no such miraculous power is being attributed to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, she might as well have it, going by the intense struggle among her political allies to run under her so-called People Power Coalition (PPC) and the sudden demise of the once dominant Laban ng Masang Pilipino (LAMP), the administration coalition headed by then President Estrada. In fact it was only yesterday that the Laban ng Demoratikong Pilipino, the party that carried Estrada to Malacañang, was able to cobble together a complete lineup of 13 candidates, and even then it had to borrow one from the PPC: reelectionist Sen. Sergio Osmeña III.

It's a good thing that the LDP was able to field a complete slate made up of people close to the deposed president, led by former First Lady Loi Ejercito and three of the 11 senators who voted to block the disclosure of what was believed to be the most damning evidence against the impeached Estrada. Now the voters have a choice between those who propped up and protected a corrupt president and those who worked to throw him out of office. They have the opportunity to join their voices with those who were at Edsa and various centers of protests in condemning incompetence, cronyism, bribery and the plunder of the treasury. For in presenting themselves for election to the Senate, these pro-Estrada candidates are saying that Filipinos are either fools or forgetful or, worse, that they approve of the corrupt ways of the deposed president.

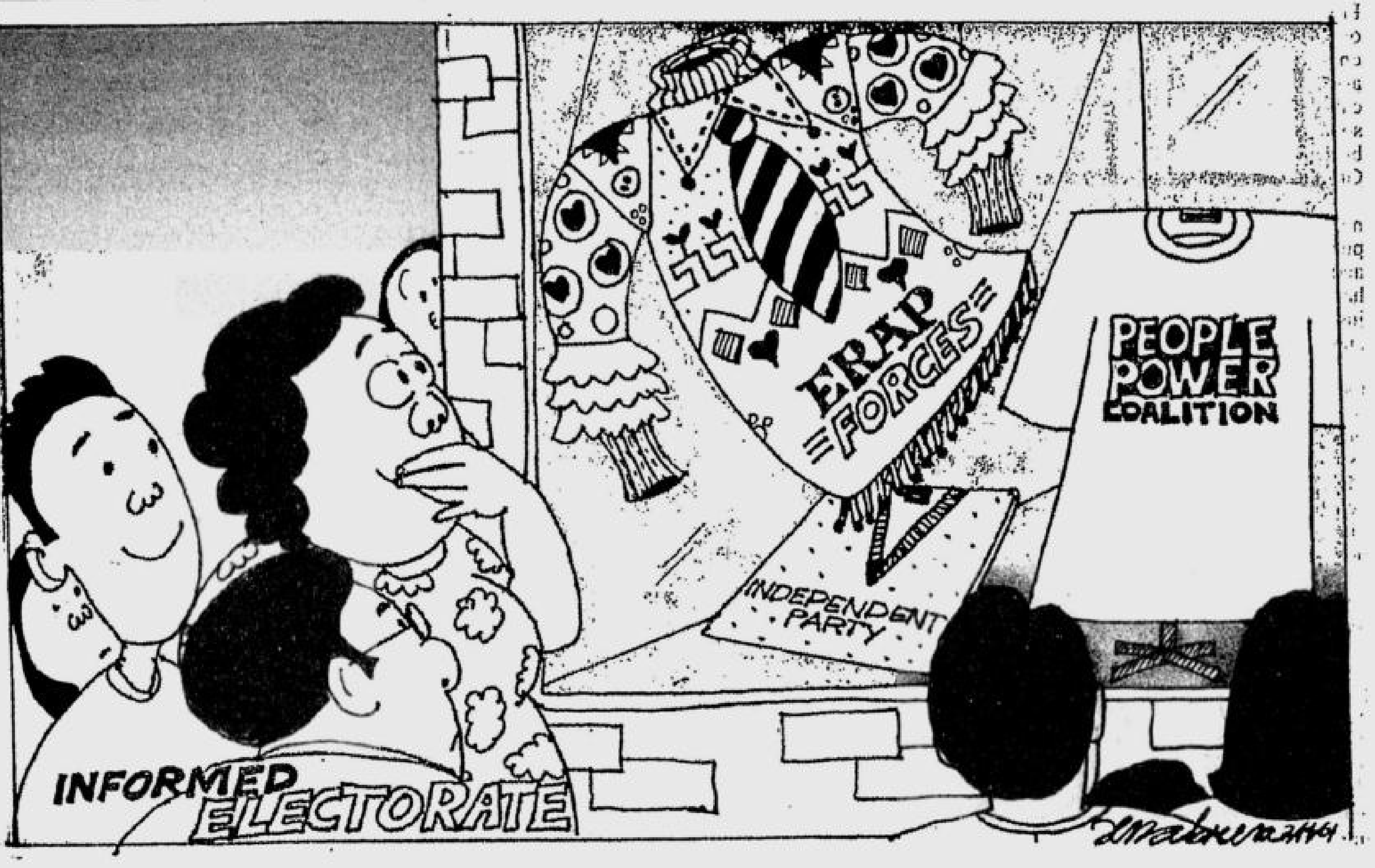
If the May elections are beginning to look like a battle between good and evil, it is not because those in the administration ticket are so good but because their opponents have shown a shocking tolerance of, if not an active support for, evil. These supporters of Estrada seem to be thumbing their noses at the people who fought to change a president who had betrayed their trust in many ways.

On the other hand, the PPC ticket is made up mostly of familiar faces in politics, with a few neophytes thrown in. But it is open to question whether they represent the "new politics" that Ms Macapagal pledged to introduce during her inaugural speech less than a month ago. From her choice of senatorial candidates, it is clear that Ms Macapagal wasn't ready to make a clean break from what she denounced as the "politics of personality and patronage." The PPC leadership did well in dumping the idea of drafting broadcaster Noli de Castro solely on the basis of his "winnability," but popularity with the voters was obviously still a major factor that influenced the selection of the administration candidates. For how else can the administration explain the inclusion, say, of Francis Pangilinan whose only experience in public service was a brief stint as councilor of Quezon City?

Of course, it is important for any administration to secure a majority in both houses of Congress. But if the politics of personality is going to be buried, then popularity should not be assigned a big weight in the choice of candidates, lest the Senate be populated with more Jaworskis, Revillas and Sottos.

In its obsession to win as many seats as possible, the administration also seems to have forgotten that the Senate is a representative body. In earlier elections, political parties made an effort to have almost every region represented in the ticket. This was deemed as a sound strategy to get votes from the different regions of the country. More than this, there is a practical reason for ensuring the representation of the various regions in the Senate: to ensure an even distribution of projects, particularly those that are funded with the lawmakers' pork barrel. But this apparently was never a factor in the selection of candidates. Thus, the PPC has 10 candidates from Luzon, three from the Visayas and none from Mindanao.

So it's basically still a battle of personalities in the May elections, and not "the new politics of parties and programs" that Ms Macapagal promised. Right now only one definable issue divides the two major parties: support for Estrada, then and now. But if the PPC can channel the debate to this issue, it just might set a precedent for having issues-based electoral contests in the future.



Being popular is not the same as being a good senator

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

THIRTEEN is an unlucky number in the Philippines, especially in photographs (the superstitious believe that one of 13 in a photograph would die prematurely), so the administration coalition's "Magic 13" candidates didn't take any risk and had Vice President Teofisto Guingona raise their hands in that photograph on the front page of most newspapers to make it 14.

I foresee at least four sure losers in the lineup (whose names I will of course not say), not because they are not deserving but simply because there are at least four others not in the coalition lineup (who will also remain nameless) who are just too popular to beat. (If you will excuse my mentioning his name, broadcast journalist Noli de Castro, even running as an independent but supported wholeheartedly by the ABS-CBN network, would be hard to beat.)

But being popular is not the same as being a good senator. We have had several senators (here I will mention Senators Ramon Revilla, Tito Sotto, Gringo Honasan and Robert Jaworski) who were very popular when elected but who contributed practically nothing in the crafting of meaningful legislations. (I would like to add the name of Sen. Joseph Estrada, whose incompetence in the Senate was even rewarded by the voters by electing him to the vice presidency and then the presidency. Not until he became president did the people wake up and realize that he was not fit to be one.)

The lesson here is that we should vote for candidates not because they are popular but because their qualifications and backgrounds would make them good public officials. Let us not have another Erap.

The "Magic 13" has candidates who would, potentially, make very good senators (now I will mention Senators Franklin Drilon and Serge Osmeña III, Representatives Joker Arroyo, Bobby Tañada and Ernesto Herrera, and economist and INQUIRER columnist Solita Monsod. But if Monsod doesn't tame her tongue, she may become the next Miriam in the Senate).

I agree with the militant groups campaigning not for but against candidates who helped Erap commit his sins against the people. Never again should we have the likes of Erap and his cronies darken Philippine society again.

So long before you go to the polls this May, cross out the names of candidates you should not vote for. Then make a list of the candidates you would vote for after carefully considering their qualifications and track records. Tell your relatives, friends, neighbors, officemates and classmates to do the same.

* * *

Former Interior Secretary and Manila Mayor Fred Lim called me up yesterday to clarify an item here last Monday that he cleared Erap in his investigation of the Erap mansions. He said he did not clear Erap as it was not his office that made the investigation. While it is true that it was him assigned by Erap to investigate, Lim said he passed it on to then Justice Secretary Artemio Tuquero as both the National Bureau of Investigation and the Land Registration Authority are under the Department of Justice.

Near the deadline imposed by Erap, Lim said Tuquero told him that the NBI had asked for an extension as the people they were questioning were not being cooperative. The report was supposed to be submitted direct to Malacañang with him being furnished a copy. But the investigation was never finished; it was overtaken by People Power II.

The report in media that Erap has been cleared of ownership of the mansions came from the NBI and was neither final nor official, Lim said. It merely said that there is no proof yet that Erap owned the mansions.

* * *

Erap does not have to go to the United States for eye surgery anymore. His eye doctor, Dr. Felipe Tolentino, who is also the eye doctor of Imelda Marcos and former Sen. Jovito Salonga, planed in last Sunday. But not to operate on Erap. He is here for a weeklong international conference of ophthalmologists. He probably didn't know of Erap's problems until he read the local papers, and Erap doesn't know of his doctor's presence here.

But now that Doctor Tolentino is here, Erap should take advantage of it and have his eye operation here and now. He doesn't have any excuse anymore to go to the United States. He will have to look for another excuse to escape prosecution.

* * *

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. is right: there are too many new presidential appointees who have pending cases against them. PNP chief Leandro Mendoza, retired Gen. Lisandro Abadia and Tourism Secretary Dick Gordon, to name only a few.

Didn't President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo have a search committee and the Presidential Management Staff that were supposed to check on the qualifications and backgrounds of potential appointees? How did they miss those pending cases when they were widely publicized in the press? Did they do a sloppy job or were these appointees not recommended by them but were inserted by powerful insiders in Malacañang?

* * *

TODAY's Gloria joke:

What is the similarity between President Macapagal and Pinnochio?

Answer: They're both puppets.

Dangerous curves

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

SOMEONE would tell me that the most telling feature of Popoy Lagman's murder was the fact that the murderers did not have an escape vehicle of their own. After shooting Popoy down, they commandeered a car, junked it after turning a couple of blocks, and fled on foot.

That says several things, this person would add. One, the murderers knew UP well: They knew where Popoy hang out and they knew the flow of traffic in UP campus. Two, they were professionals: They abandoned their car as soon as they were safe, not allowing themselves to be tempted by the profit to be gained from carnapping. And three, they were probably not police or military or their assets: Cops or soldiers or their assets (who include inmates of Death Row) did not normally leave their escape route to chance, but used getaway cars, usually hot ones that they could abandon at will, for big hits.

Maybe, though Popoy's colleagues themselves still think it was a rightist plot. If it was an ABB hit at all, they say, it was probably done in connivance with a rightist group. The murder of Popoy, they say, fits the same pattern as the murder of Lando Olalia after the first People Power. It's not just meant to destabilize the new government, it's meant to decimate the Left.

I myself have no theory about who killed Popoy. He did have many enemies, from Left and Right, from archrival leftist factions (though Popoy's group now calls them rightists, as does the other camp Popoy's group) to archenemy capitalist bosses. I do not have a theory about who killed Popoy, but I do have a theory—or a sense, or a feeling, or an intuition, which is better than theory, with all its scientific connotations—about its significance.

It is not unlike the theory of Popoy's friends that it is a throwback to the post-1986 hits, but goes farther. It is a throwback, I think, not just to the post-1986 hits but to the post-1986 political situation. Indeed, it is a throwback not just to the 1986 political situation but to the post-1945 political situation as well.

There are uncanny parallels between the post-war situation and the post-Edsa one. Both were periods of transition. Both were characterized by a debilitated elite, which had just been rived by conflicting loyalties—the collaboration issue in the first case, the loyalist issue in the second case. Both had a revolutionary movement knocking at the door, fueled by mass restiveness and widespread clamor for reform, the pro-democracy forces having just won against tyrannical rule.

Both ended with government declaring war on the Left, with right-wing groups assassinating Left personalities, underground or legal. Maybe some of them were meant to destabilize government. That was not their effect: Their effect was merely to drive government further to the right. Manuel Roxas declared war on the Huks, who had helped to liberate the country from the Japanese, Cory Aquino "unleashed the sword of war," as she put it, on the CPP-NPA, who had helped to liberate the country from Marcos. Along with the Huks and CPP-NPA, the democrats, liberals, reformists, activists, progressives, not all of which were members of the revolutionary movement, or believed in it, were pushed to the sea.

At the other end, the elite swiftly moved to consolidate its ranks, calling the process "healing wounds." The post-war Philippine government dropped the collaboration charges against prominent Filipinos after the Japanese Occupation—not one of them was convicted during two years of trials—and the post-Edsa government dropped, or bungled, human rights and plunder charges against Marcos and his cronies, and sounded the trumpets for reconciliation. Debilitated itself by monumental corruption, government was powerless to stop the collaborationists and loyalists from returning to power.

The same tendencies have begun to manifest themselves today.

I do think it is ironic or poetic commentary that Popoy Lagman was gunned down at the same time that Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was visiting the camps to assure the officers and their men that they would always have her ears. I do think it is ironic or poetic commentary that Satur Ocampo was shut out of the Department of Agrarian Reform while Fidel Ramos' men—his chief lieutenant, Renato de Villa leading the pack—were mounting an occupation of Macapagal's administration. I do think it is ironic or poetic commentary that the NGOs and P0s and activists were (and are being) relegated to a minor role in the telling of the story of Edsa II while Aquino and Jaime Cardinal Sin and Ramos and the AFP-PNP would be credited with winning it for us. These are the two forces that are almost automatically unleashed at the start of every major transition in this country, or one where different groups with competing beliefs vie for political power.

Which is to say that today's situation is pretty much the same one as that after 1986 and 1945. The only difference being that unlike the Huks and CPP-NPA in 1945 and 1986, the Left today presents no capability to overthrow government by armed means. What it does pose today is a potential parliamentary threat, particularly given its role in ousting Erap—and equally importantly, Macapagal's lack of it, which tends to undercut her moral, if not legal, claim to leadership—which from the point view of this country's elite can be just as lethal, if not more so.

The monumental peril of trying the crush of the Left of course, as we've seen in the past, is that it is not the Left that is crushed but the spirit of human rights, libertarianism and reform—the very things People Power stand for. And the monumental peril of the reconstitution of the elite, in the name of "healing wounds," is that it foments political conservatism often to a point that borders on fascism. Or to a point where reform is deemed communistic. And government itself, caught between these two forces, if not in fact actively advancing them, eventually becomes corrupt and abusive. It happened in the past, it can happen again. Without vigorous resistance to it, it will.

John Donne once told us to ask not for whom the bells toll because it tolls for thee. I should think that applies with particular force to Popoy Lagman, happening as his murder has at this time. Ask not for whom the bells toll, they toll for People Power. Ask not for whom the bells toll, they toll for you.

Or else, be vigilant. Be very, very vigilant.

* * *

Comments are welcome at dequiros@vasia.com

Mixed signals on GMA's 'will to punish'

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

PRINT media and popular talk have been bristling with the call to prosecute ousted President Joseph Estrada and to do so, now, at once, without delay. "The first priority is to file charges..." "Move quickly to sequester the assets." "Arrest and try him immediately." The call fills the air. Its urgency is not lost on civil society. But unease and impatience are setting in because we do not know how firm is President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's stand on the matter.

What's more, the talk is not only about the need to file charges but also about the need to punish. Please, let's not bring in "vindictiveness" and the "thirst for blood." Even Jinggoy with his hang-dog looks on TV knows this is all about justice. He just knows we're notorious for *awa* and he's working on it.

The failure to punish is to blame for much of the failure of Edsa I. So imperative is retribution or else we may find Estrada and company rehabilitating themselves before our very eyes just as Marcos' family and friends have done. If Marcos were alive, even he might have reinvented himself—courtesy of the Filipino people's kindness, mercy and forgetfulness. Don't look now, but the Estrada rehabilitation has begun, exactly nine days after Edsa II. The once retiring, self-effacing, *martir* Loi is being trial-ballooned for the Senate.

In relation to the above matters, there are two excellent articles that he should read in full, Raul Fabella's "The retribution imperative" (PDI, 1/28/01) and former Justice Isagani Cruz's "Pardon by exile" (PDI, 2/3/01). Fabella's "will to punish" so struck me, that I quoted it for my title. Cruz's column explains the legal implications of exile, but by extension it raises the need to know implications and requirements of any legal procedure, like prosecution, before statements are too freely released about it.

Since our political education on TV during the impeachment proceeding has whetted our appetite to learn, as Conrado de Quiros has noted, we now want to be informed about the finer workings of government actions and not just be "given notice." As of now, the "notices" on the prospects of prosecution and punishment are mixed signals; *malabo*, is most apt.

On the bright side, GMA has said that her administration is bent on pursuing all the cases against Estrada as one of her priorities; that she will let justice take its course. Comforting statements but we need more than comfort. Might these not turn out to be the usual platter of palliatives, promises and platitudes?

On the dim side, asked on TV about prosecution, Press Undersecretary Bobby Capco pointed to the Department of Justice, then to the Ombudsman. When pressed whether the government would make any deals if approached by Estrada, he answered, "You must ask that of the people"! Isn't that first-class evasion? Let me quote a Q and A interview of GMA from the Pinoy Times. "Are you ready to grant Estrada pardon?" A: That's a political and legal issue that would require a consensus. "What's your personal feeling?" A: I think there should be a consensus. "Civil society says there can't be reconciliation without justice..." A: It's a fair position but I'm looking at a consensus. Doesn't that look like diffusing command responsibility?

There's a great difference between "letting justice take its course" and deliberately moving to see that justice is served; a great difference between "Go ahead and prosecute...whoever they may be," and, "Charge Estrada." It's the difference between a "good" president and one who will make a stab for greatness. These are not good times but evil times which call for resolute proactive leadership moves. Playing safe may no longer do. As a friend said, the cue must come from GMA. Policy initiatives must emanate from her, categorically, decisively and vigorously. The people are still waiting for that position on the fate of Estrada. On this No. 1 issue, she must call the shots.

Questions still bristle, like: We hold the private prosecutors in the highest esteem, but would GMA have given a stronger signal if government did the charging? Will the DOJ eventually do a Pilate? How long will the "gathering of evidence" take? Will there be cooperation or conflict between the Ombudsman and the DOJ and the prosecutors? What charges have actually been filed and by whom? Is Estrada the first and foremost focus or is prosecution dissipating its energies by spreading out too thin? Is exile an escape hatch? How many more "it's up to Perez" and "it's his (Erap's) call" will we hear?

The call is clear: "No forgiveness without restitution; no reconciliation without punishment." We'll be watching "how Gloria will act on the criminal charges against Estrada."

Asuncion David Maramba is a book editor, a retired professor and an occasional journalist.

The mystery of Doktora Loi

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THE "VIRGIN or the vamp," the "madonna and the whore" are stereotypes that have held women captive down through millennia. The women in the Bible, for instance, are always one or the other: Eve or the Virgin Mary, Delilah or Ruth. Women are either saintly, obedient and self-sacrificing, or morally corrupt, sexually depraved and damned.

We Filipinos saw this female dichotomy at work during our own national *telenovela*, the tawdry tale of Erap and his women. On one hand were the mistresses, women who had embarked on quite public liaisons with the married former President then proceeded to milk the most out of their illicit relationships, implicated in various financial scandals and drawing public ire and envy with their humongous mansions and glitzy lifestyles.

On the other hand, there was "the long-suffering Doktora Loi." Though scorned for her silence in the wake of her husband's scandalous behavior and contemptuous treatment of her, she managed to win a measure of respect even from her critics, for wasn't she, after all, turning the other cheek, heeding the advice of Church and respectable society to put the stability of the marriage above even her own self-interest?

Erap may be the subject of analysis of those wishing to understand his puzzling rise to power and the secret of his enduring popularity, but to me Doktora Loi seems the more contradictory figure. A professional who fell in love with an underachiever, a wife who fled rather than tolerate the daily shaming of a flagrant, long-lasting extra-marital affair, and a First Lady preaching tolerance and doing good works: How much of her situation was due to human weakness and cowardice, how much savvy calculation and the smugness of the lone "legal" mate, how much real devotion and true love?

* * *

BUT nothing better defines the extent and depth of Doktora Loi's martyrdom than her recent decision to run for senator, her certificate of candidacy filed by proxy through her eldest child, Mayor Jinggoy.

Though she was an energetic do-gooder, with her medical missions and relief projects around the country, Doktora Loi struck me as a none-too-eager public figure, clearly uncomfortable in the public eye. Which is why I don't think her candidacy could have emerged from personal desire or predilection. Who put her up to it? And why is she willing to endure such punishment?

No matter how romantic the notion, there must be a limit to the amount of suffering a woman, even a wife, would agree to in the name of love or its substitutes—respectability, stability, companionship or duty.

In her campaign for the Senate, what exactly does Doktora Loi offer voters? Is she standing for the person of integrity and service that she undoubtedly is? Or is she lending her virtues once more in the service of a man who clearly has no use for them, or her?

Doktora Loi, your own daughter has just started down the road of marriage and motherhood. What signposts along her own road are you putting up for her? What directions will you give her? Toward what goal?

* * *

IT DOESN'T seem like a particularly romantic thing to do today, but Fr. Robert Reyes, along with a group of animals and "animal-loving friends" are going on a fieldtrip, making stops at different government offices and "places of national significance" to let the animals do the talking and symbolize their demands for peace in this season of electoral politics.

Among the stops along the tour:

A visit to the DENR with the message: "Itigil ang Panghaharas ng Ahas (Stop Harassing Snakes—or is it Stop the Snake's Harassment?)!"; to Quezon City Hall/Comelec: "Ma-Mathay-Mathay na tayo sa mga Trapo't Basura, Pamahalaan at Kapaligiran, Linisin (We're Dying from Rags and Garbage, Clean Up the Government and Environment)!"; Polk Street: "Erap Remain! Ikulong (Go to Jail)!"; and Malacañang, the Senate and Congress: "Mas Dapat Mag-ingat sa Hayop sa Hawan Kaysa sa Hayop sa Kagubatan (Be More Wary of Animals in Cages than Animals in the Jungle)!"

The fieldtrip will also include stops at media institutions, such as ABS-CBN: "Ang Puno ay Itanim sa Gubat, Huwag sa Senado (Plant a Tree in the Forest, Not in the Senate)!"; "Paylon at De Cashtro di Karapat-dapat Iboto (Not Worthy to be Voted)"; the MTRCB: "Bagay sa Amin ang Hubad Hindi sa Inyo (Nakedness Becomes Us, not You)!"; and even the INQUIRER: "On Animal Caricatures of Politicos—This is Not the Way to Treat Us on the Year of the Snake!"

* * *

NOTICES: The public is invited to the fourth Carmelite Diamond Jubilee University Lecture on "Roles/Value Orientation of Women in the Philippines" to be delivered by UE President Josefina R. Cortez. The lecture takes place on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 10 a.m. at St. Paul's College in Quezon City.

The Diamond Jubilee lecture series has been organized by an executive committee headed by former UP President Jose V. Abueva as chair, with Fr. Arnold Boehme, Ocd and Prof. Ruben Balane of UP and Ateneo law colleges as members.

Also on Feb. 21, from 4-6 p.m., the TOWNS Foundation is hosting an auction called "Things We Love" at the Karapatan Hall of the Museo Pambata, beside the US Embassy. The auction is being held to raise funds for this year's search for TOWNS awardees, outstanding women who have contributed to the advancement of women and the enrichment of society through their professional achievements.

Among the items up for auction, contributed by TOWNS awardees themselves, are a dozen silver fish name card holders from Italy contributed by Gloria Tan Climaco, a black suit from Mel Tiangco, a set of 10 books on Chinese heritage from Tessie Ang See, batik cloth from Justice Flery Romero, souvenirs and prized *objets d' art* from Lilia Bautista, an oil painting from Lilia de Lima, framed photographs from Cora Claudio and Mel Alonso, a gown and painted pillows from Celeste Legaspi, and many, many more "beloved things" from the TOWNS women.

Appreciating Luna and Hidalgo's paintings

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

JUAN Luna y Novicio and Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo, the 19th century Philippine painters, are often considered national heroes. They lived in very exciting times, both were expatriate patriots, both were friends of Jose Rizal, both produced a portrait of Rizal long before he became a hero. If Luna and Hidalgo were not master painters, some people could actually say their fame was but reflected glory from Rizal. Hidalgo was the Paris correspondent of the revolutionary paper La Independencia, while Luna was one of the diplomatic representatives of the Aguinaldo government. All this coupled with years of looking at their paintings (in the National Museum, in the Lopez Museum and a number of private collections in Manila) have made me realize that Luna and Hidalgo are part of Philippine history—and that, unfortunately, is their greatest misfortune. Luna and Hidalgo are trapped in history, their works appreciated more for their historical than aesthetic value.

Luna and Hidalgo enter the consciousness of schoolchildren who are taught about their winning medals in the 1884 Madrid Exposition of Fine Arts. Luna was awarded a gold medal for the massive "Spoliarium," and Hidalgo a silver medal for "Virgenes Cristianas Expuestas as Populacho (Christian Virgins Exposed to the Populace)." Thus, our textbooks make Luna and Hidalgo the first *international* Filipino painters. This is not to belittle our heroes, but the gold and silver medals won by Luna and Hidalgo in 1884 do not mean that Luna won first prize, and Hidalgo second in that exposition. These medals were awarded as a gauge of quality in the same way that bottles of Tanduay rhum has on its labels, the numerous *medallas de oro* won over the years. Luna was awarded a gold medal, one among 15 that were given out, and Hidalgo a silver medal, one among 45 awarded in that exposition. Then of course, there is the fact that in the 1880s, the art capital of the world was Paris, France, not backwater Madrid. With this in mind, we can perhaps see more clearly into our history and the paintings of Luna and Hidalgo.

Luna's "Spoliarium" in the National Museum, is something every young Filipino should see at least once in their lives. We read about this important painting in textbooks that seldom carry a photograph. If at all, the reproduction is in black and white, printed on low-grade newsprint, making it almost worthless. What I cannot understand is that the National Museum is accessible, and one day a week grants free admission, but the daily crowd is always bigger at the nearby Shoemart mall. This huge painting is worth seeing, if only to realize that much has been left out of the reduced reproduction in phone cards. If you liked the recent film "Gladiator," you will see in Luna's prize-winning canvas the sorrow that death brings after a bout in the Roman coliseum. Here, the dead gladiator has been taken to symbolize the Philippines under Spain. Curiously, in 1983, parallels were seen in the way the assassinated Ninoy Aquino was pulled into the Avsecom van and the way Luna's gladiator is dragged out of the coliseum like a slab of meat in a market. Why does one and the same painting suggest different meanings over time? We read ourselves into the "Spoliarium," just as Rizal and the other patriots read themselves into the painting. I look at Luna's canvas today and frankly, I cannot see Filipinas or Ninoy in it. All I see is a Roman scene that was typical of Spanish painting at the time.

Alas, Hidalgo's prize-winning work is not in the National Museum but in the bowels of the Central Bank. This canvas depicts young Christian virgins cornered by a mob of sex-starved Romans. The maidens are in such flimsy clothes you could almost say they deserved their fate, but then, according to Hidalgo, that is how persecuted Christian virgins are attired in Roman times. If they were ugly hags, the lusty mob would not have given them a second glance even if they were stark naked. I find more tension and drama in Hidalgo's painting than the "Spoliarium"—one man has his paw on one of the virgins, her eyes looking up to heaven for help that never comes. You don't need an IQ of 500 to know what happens next. Perhaps this is what self-censorship is supposed to accomplish for Philippine cinema—leave sex to the imagination.

Again, Rizal, Graciano Lopez-Jaena and other patriots of the 19th century saw Filipinas in this canvas, the poor motherland ravaged by colonial Spain. I have thought about Hidalgo's painting a long time and I still cannot suspend disbelief to see Filipinas in a typical historical canvas that Luna, Hidalgo and probably all their classmates in Spain painted to win a prize at the Exposition. Is this my trademark irreverence? Or maybe, because of my poor toilet training at infancy, I am like the boy who sees that there is no such thing as the emperor's new clothes. History has a way of clouding our vision. Perhaps we should see the paintings of Luna and Hidalgo for what they are and interpret them within our context. Without the nationalist mumbo-jumbo we get from school, we may perhaps appreciate these men more as artists than heroes.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@pusit.admu.edu.ph

With Estrada's Time article, his conviction is now a must

OUTLOOK

Rigoberto Tiglao

IF you've read the article purportedly written by Joseph Estrada in Time's current issue, you'll be convinced that it wasn't the deposed President who wrote it. Most likely, he didn't even read the 2,500-word article even after it was published.

Comparing its style with the January article in the Asian Wall Street journal bylined by Estrada's impeachment trial counsel Andres Narvasa, we would bet that the former chief justice has found a new career as a ghost writer. Who else can unearth a quotation from US President Andrew Jackson on his impeachment trial, and effortlessly engage in legal argumentation, which is the meat of the piece?

Whoever wrote it—a well-written one despite its deliberate misinformation and erroneous arguments—has expertly vilified the country in the widely read newsweekly as a "banana republic." We think though that Time violated standard journalistic practice of accompanying, for balance and objectivity, a self-serving opinion article—especially with 2,500 words, an unusually long one for the newsweekly—with a companion piece challenging it. Oh well, we suppose it forces President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to write a rebuttal, encouraging people to make sure that they buy the magazine's next issue.

Estrada's ghost writer may have done a brilliant job in portraying the former President as the victim of mob rule and a champion of constitutionalism. However, he has really put Estrada on the hot seat. The piece has only emphasized an imperative now for the legitimacy of the presidency of Ms Macapagal: Estrada's criminal prosecution and conviction.

In contrast, in the case of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, it wasn't really such a must for the Aquino administration. After all, the first People Power installed a "revolutionary government," which really meant starting from square one, leaving no room for constitutional challenges to its legitimacy.

But forget the constitutional arguments that Estrada hadn't resigned and merely took a leave, that Ms Macapagal is therefore only—as the Estrada, or is it the Narvasa article argues—an "acting President." Forget the political-philosophical argument that even one million people at Edsa isn't enough to nullify the 10 million people who voted for Estrada in 1998.

The realpolitik of People Power II, of Ms Macapagal's ascendancy to power, is as follows. A massive multi-sectoral protest movement, in the end backed up the military, forced Estrada to step down, because of his corruption on a grand scale. The raison d'être therefore for Ms Macapagal's presidency is that it had to replace a corrupt one.

Her administration has to prove that now—this time in the courts, and no longer in the streets, which had been necessary in January because Estrada had managed to control the impeachment court that was trying him.

If the Macapagal administration, with all the resources it has, fails to prove in the courts that Estrada is guilty of corruption, it also fails to prove its own legitimacy. The thesis of the "Estrada" article would be proven right, that we're a 'banana republic" where a head of state can be ousted at the whim of the powers-that-be.

But the "Estrada" article had made clear its challenge to the new President to prove that he was corrupt, and Ms Macapagal and her people will certainly take up the gauntlet, as the legitimacy of her administration is at stake. Sometimes, your lawyer, if you let him be your ghost writer, could get you in bigger trouble.

* * *

Still on the "Estrada" article, we find it fascinating in that parts of it read like a lawyer's brief, precise in its statements in order to evade possible perjury. Take the following two paragraphs:

"Due to lack of particulars and specifications, the trial, on many occasions, turned into a wild open-ended presentation of evidence by the prosecution, including the so-called 'smoking-gun' of Ms Ocampo who testified that I am the 'Jose Velarde' mentioned in a trust account agreement involving 500 million pesos....I said I did not and do not own the account. There was absolutely no government money, no *jueteng* money, and no dirty money involved.".

The intriguing question that arises here is: Why didn't "Estrada" say that he is not Jose Velarde? Another: Why did he write "I said I did not and do not own the account," instead of a more categorical, "I did not and do not own the account"?

The explanation here is that his lawyer-ghost writer could not get out of his legalistic mind-set. Estrada can't say he's not Jose Velarde, because a credible witness, banker Clarissa Ocampo, did testify that he signed as "Jose Velarde." But he can argue—and even produce documents—that he does not really own the account, that he is only its signatory or representative for an investment account owned by a pool of investors. "Estrada's" statement really is of the same genre as former US.President Clinton's classic testimony on the Monica Lewinski charges: "I did not have sex with her."

It might also be the case in "Estrada's" statement in the article: "I swear on my father's grave that never in my entire career in public life have I taken a single centavo of taxpayers' money." *Jueteng* protection money and commissions from corporate takeovers certainly aren't taxpayers' money.

Embassy row

There's an uproar in the foreign service over the appointment to the premier post, our Washington embassy, of two non-career officials, former BusinessWorld reporter Jose Maria Ebro and Victor Gosiengfiao, as "foreign service advisers" with designations as "ministers."

Acting Foreign Secretary Lauro Baja appointed the two only a few days after People Power II. Embassy staffers see the appointment of the two as an affront to the service's professionalism as the two aren't with the career foreign service corps. They have not even taken the foreign service officers' exams—which even the President's daughter, Lourdes, had taken. The two first got to be embassy staffers when former Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo in 1992 assigned them as "political appointees" to the US Embassy. Ebro had been covering the diplomatic beat then for BusinessWorld when Romulo was foreign secretary while Gosiengfiao was the secretary's ghost writer. Even after Romulo stepped down from his post, the two remained at the embassy until Estrada's ambassador to the United States, Ernesto Maceda, fired them. Apparently, Special Ambassador Roberto Romulo didn't waste time to throw his weight around again by asking the foreign affairs department to take in his boys Ebro and Gosiengfiao back into the embassy at even higher salaries.

Ebro apparently made such a stir at the embassy that he had to issue a press statement to the Filipino community newspaper, Manila Mail, that "it wasn't he but Ambassador Ariel Abadilla who is still in charge of the embassy."

* * *

Comments: rtiglao@inq7.net

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Tale of rights abuses by Marcos must be retold

THE WORLD must have turned upside down when Imelda Marcos filed a case of human rights violations against former Presidents Aquino and Ramos, Rep. Joker Arroyo and members of the Presidential Commission on Good Government for allegedly violating the rights of the Marcoses when they were booted out of Malacañang and their assets sequestered. Ms Marcos must have a completely different definition of victim and perpetrator!

The Task Force Detainees of the Philippines (TFDP) has a museum full of photographs and testimony of victims of human rights violations during martial law as well as records of torture, salvagings, massacres and plunder of wealth. More than 9,000 victims of human rights violations during the reign of terror of Ferdinand Marcos have won a case against him at the Hawaii District Court and are still awaiting payment of damages by the Marcos family. Plunder of the wealth of the nation was the order of the day during the authoritarian rule—the external debt rose to a staggering P28 billion in 1986 from less than P5 billion in 1971 while the poverty incidence rose from 43.8 percent in 1971 to 58.9 percent in 1985.

Mr. Marcos has a record of distorting the truth when he repeatedly said that there were no human rights violations under his rule. Ms Marcos is bent on perpetuating this falsehood. The couple, indeed, are partners and have many things in common!

Some of the martial law cases, including those documented by the TFDP, are already in the records of the Commission on Human Rights and it is the responsibility of the CHR to tell Ms Marcos about the facts. Human rights violations under the late dictator was the main reason why the writers of our Constitution included a provision creating the CHR. The CHR is an institution made to ensure that the horrors of martial law should never happen again.

Truth must prevail and the CHR has a responsibility to disclose the truth.—**AURORA A. PARONG, M.D., executive director, Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, 19 Malingap St., Teachers' Village, Quezon City**

Popoy, the pragmatic Leninist

HE has been a "bad boy" to many, even to his closest "friends." I remember one of his stories about a clash between activists and street toughies mobilized by then Caloocan mayor, the old Asistio. It was a rout, but the youthful activists led by Ka Popoy stood their ground and earned the admiration and respect of the "Pasistios." This image of the person does transcend a character of toughness and ruthlessness, which earned him enemies and admirers alike. Up to the end of his life, this would be of his undoing.

Another of his stories related Lean Alejandro's remark about this man's character. According to Lean, Popoy would really attract adversaries because of his sharp mind and uncanny ideas, expressed in a tongue-lashing manner. He was second to none in ideological struggles. Only Jose Maria Sison could put the young "Leninist" in place. His peers conspired to curtail his vast political and organizational clout in the party. He was a revolutionary maverick, defying the official line and policies in pursuit of his beliefs and convictions. One of his favorite inspirational phrases was Lenin's "singleness of purpose."

He writes well enough. De Quiros and Quijano would envy his thoughts and command of language. Palanca awardees would be pretenders compared to this man's masterpieces.

But more than anything else, he is a Leninist, a pragmatic one, that is. He dreams of taking power for and in behalf of the working class, and would find every way and use all means at his disposal to achieve this lifelong goal. He does not rely on personal appeal and friendship. In fact, he lost all his senior cadres who bolted his party after serious disagreements in the organization, and he did not even bother to win them back. He developed the urban partisan warfare in combination with the open mass struggles. He conceived of the open revolutionary advocacy of the working class. He even used manipulation and buying-out tactics in local electoral politics. For him, nothing is sacred, nothing is holy. Everything is swept under by the rush of progress and change. Whatever the cost, whatever suits his ends.

Until the end, I remain a student and an admirer.

If there is anyone who could turn this country upside down, he could.

I was not surprised at all with his death. But I sincerely mourn his passing, and I shed tears for his mother.—**DENNIS B. MENDIOLA, 093 San Lorenzo Ruiz Compound, Magsaysay St., Manggahan, 1611 Pasig City**

The few who are a disgrace

THERE is a popular Filipino saying that goes, "In every forest, there lurks a few poisonous snakes." This is the equivalent of a Chinese proverb: "There is always one or a few in a group who bring disgrace."

It is a reality that for every race in this world there's always the so-called "black sheep." We must not generalize the bad deeds of a few to represent the whole group. This is not just bias, but grossly unfair.

As the majority of Chinese-Filipinos would agree, we have already considered the Philippines as our very own country. We have assimilated into the mainstream of Philippine society. Just like the 2 million Filipino-Americans who accepted the United States as their own country.

Persons like the notorious gambler Charlie "Atong" Ang, etc. are not only our society's controversial figures, they are also the burden of the law-abiding Tsinoys, and they must be prosecuted if found violating any law of our country.—**BENJAMIN GO, 1133 Soler St., Manila**

Missed the point

CONRADO de Quiros' column last Feb. 6 was 100-percent correct in questioning how foreign observers miss the point and insist that People Power II was no triumph for democracy.

Time magazine's Nov. 11, 2000 and Jan. 29, 2001 issues made laughable attempts to classify Erap as one of "Asia's flawed leaders that should be allowed to complete his term." This really insults our intelligence because the criminal President we ousted wasn't merely flawed, he was rotten to the core!

These foreign journalist try to draw comparisons between US President Clinton's impeachment and Erap's *moro-moro* trial. They say that in the United States, democratic processes work, here it is subverted by mob rule. But they are looking at it from the wrong perspective. Clinton may have had his faults but at least he left the US budget with a $3 trillion surplus. Filipinos weren't so lucky. We can tolerate a president like Clinton, but can Americans say the same if they had a president like Estrada?—**REY K. LIRIOS, 365 Gen. Ordoñez St., Marikina City**

Cause and effect

IT'S simple. It's the law of cause and effect that swept Erap out of Malacañang, which literally tore him into pieces and *ipso facto,* out of power. No question.

But how long, should we say, must a grim and angry populace watch the mounting pieces of evidence of crime that were virtually committed and heaped on them with little or no hope of arresting and punishing the culprit?

Must the Filipinos be the laughingstock of the world by letting a giant slip out of our hands?

Lastly, would Ombudsman Aniano Desierto please elicit or refer more to phrases that go beyond his buts, ifs and howevers...or, would he rather sneak out into the desert...to pray?—**LOURDES OBEN SANTOS, B2-L19 Salamat St., Armel Subd., Sta. Lucia, Pasig City**

Sacrilegious way to receive the host?

THIS is to inform you that the practice of the clergy of placing the host into the hands of the person receiving Holy Communion is a sacrilege. It is not accepted by heaven because it was promoted by the devil, according to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Please advice your relatives, friends as well as the Catholic public not to receive Holy Communion in the hands anymore. Please find space in your public service portion about this.

Let us heed the Blessed Mother in her wish to put an end to this malpractice once and for all.—**ANTONIO P. STERNBERG, Fatima Chapel, 2499 Decena St., Pasay City**

Three-pronged approach to getting rid of garbage

PLEASE allow me to clarify certain points raised in your editorial of Feb. 4 ("A stinking mess"). First, it is not true that there was a lack of transparency in our search for solutions to the garbage problem. The comprehensive solid waste management plan and the terms of reference for the landfill bidding that we in the Greater Metropolitan Manila Solid Waste Management Committee drafted were communicated fully to the relevant sectors: Metro Manila mayors, NGOs, environmentalists, businessmen and the media. As subsequent events would prove, the three-pronged approach that we recommended was correct.

Our plan consisted of: (1) segregation, recycling and composting; (2) use of alternative technologies to process residues; (3) provision of sanitary landfill as a final disposal system for residues that cannot be recycled or converted into fertilizer. Our friends in the NGOs will attest to the fact that I was one of the first government officials to fully embrace and push for waste segregation, recycling and composting.

The bidding for the proposed sanitary landfill, conducted by the Metro Manila Development Authority, was very transparent and amply covered by media. The bidding process for the planned permanent landfill facility was started in February last year. Records will show that our effort to set up the facility was stymied by numerous temporary restraining orders from both the regional trial court and the Court of Appeals. You accuse us of failing to make a dent on the garbage problem but you conveniently omitted the fact that we were stopped by the courts and the people of Antique.

For your information too, the implementation of the solid waste program rests with the MMDA while the collection of garbage is the responsibility of the mayors.

Lastly, I did not meddle in the Sulu hostage crisis. As you very well know, it was a thankless job that fell on my lap. I am proud to say that despite the criticisms and dangers that came along the way, 31 lives were saved.

If we could only stop finger-pointing and grandstanding and instead act as one people, we may yet find a lasting solution to the garbage problem.—**ROBERTO N. AVENTAJADO, 26th Floor, Pacific Star Bldg., corner Sen. Gil Puyat and Makati Avenues, Makati City**

LETTERS

'I'd rather remain at the sidelines'

AS one of the hundreds of thousands of Filipinos who participated in Edsa II, I believe the INQUIRER gave many the courage that allowed us to continue the struggle against the corrupt and mismanaged Estrada administration despite the overwhelming powers of the people then in power.

With Gloria now installed as our new President, it is time for me, as her husband, to remain at the sidelines and preferably disappear from the public scene. Let me stress that I appreciate your concern or views regarding myself and I thank you for calling my attention regarding these issues.

Let me, therefore, comment on a possible misinterpretation that may have been caused by my participation in an event in Malacañang recently wherein officials and members of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Inc. (FFCCII) paid a courtesy call on President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

The President requested me to join the group that met with FFCCII officials and members when they went to Malacañang to prove to them that she has no anti-Chinese bias.

Supporters of the Estrada administration launched a vicious black propaganda campaign against then Vice President Macapagal-Arroyo in the Filipino-Chinese community after she resigned from former President Estrada's Cabinet. Among the false allegations made against her was that she had an anti-Chinese bias.

Of course, we all know this is not true. But to prove to the Filipino-Chinese community that she has no anti-Chinese bias, she presented me as living proof of her convictions.

The INQUIRER itself reported the day after FFCCII officials went to Malacañang, I have Chinese blood because of my great, great-grandfather Son Tua, who was awarded huge tracts of land in what is now known as Quezon City and Marikina City after helping the then Spanish government quell a foreign invasion.

So, how can President Macapagal-Arroyo be anti-Chinese when her own husband has Chinese blood?

It is true that I shook hands with Lucio Tan, who has been tagged as a crony of former President Estrada. But I believe that Rina Jimenez-David would agree that rules of civility required me to shake Tan's hand as well as all the officials of the federation when I saw them in the Palace. This is a lesson well learned from our elders, a simple act of civility and good breeding.

Rest assured that as the husband of our new President, I would not involve myself in any business or transaction of the government, as the President directed in her Administrative Order No. 1. We are now also preparing the list of our relatives who would be covered by this presidential directive.

I would rather remain in the sidelines, participating in charity projects and involving myself in volunteer legal work as a member of the anti-crime watchdog, the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC). I have asked former First Lady Amelita "Ming" Ramos to head anew the Piso Para sa Pasig campaign for the rehabilitation of the Pasig River.

Lastly, let me thank the INQUIRER for its excellent and unbridled commitment to our democracy and the freedom of the press. We in the Arroyo family support you all the way.—**JOSE MIGUEL ARROYO**

Vicious cycle?

NOW that the nation has a new President and Vice President, how long will long lines of people wait to break the cycle of poverty that begins with elections, followed by spoils and ineptness in government that worsen our problems until the fabric breaks in another uprising?—**VICENTE ENCARNACION JR., UP Village, Quezon City**

Learning from her father

COMMENTARY

Nono Alfonso, S.J.

Institute on Church and Social Issues

THE NEW President must have really learned a lot from her father. Many of the things she has done so far as President parallel the actions of the late President Diosdado Macapagal. Her first executive order, for instance bans her relatives from engaging in business with government. Coincidentally, this was also among the first things her father did upon occupying Malacañang. As part of her austerity measures, moreover, Ms Macapagal has also put up the presidential yacht, Ang Pangulo, for sale. Again, this was also done by her father immediately upon taking office. Although both of these measures are clearly aimed at differentiating her administration from her predecessor, the influence of her father's actions on her presidency cannot be discounted.

Indeed, Ms Macapagal finds herself facing a situation very similar to the political and economic context that Diosdado Macapagal struggled with when he became President. In the late '60s, the Philippine economy was not doing well, prices of commodities especially rice, were spiraling. Graft and corruption was also eating through government and the society at large. In 1961, Diosdado Macapagal, the country's Vice President at the time, ran against the reelectionist President Garcia and won popular support on the political platform that he would alleviate the life of the ordinary man, declaring his presidency as the "new era of the common man," and that he would rid government of graft and corruption, promising to bring back decency and moral integrity in public service.

In the same way, Ms Macapagal was catapulted into power by a popular uprising against the corrupt, graft-ridden and "morally bankrupt" administration of Joseph Estrada. The economy could hardly be in any worse situation than it is now, with government facing a budget deficit of P225 billion—the biggest in Philippine history. Against these political and economic challenges, Ms Macapagal finds herself echoing her father's battle cry for the ordinary man and for clean and honest government.

But while her father, the late President Diosdado Macapagal, proved his worth and mettle against these challenges, Ms Macapagal is now only beginning to buckle down to work. Still, she could learn a thing or two from the experiences, the struggles and the travails of her father. How has history judged the "poor boy from Lubao"?

Among the achievements of the fifth President of the Republic after World War II was the establishment of the Programme Implementation Agency (PIA), the executive's economic planning agency or what could be the forerunner of Neda. The PIA produced Diosdado Macapagal's Five-Year Socio-Economic Development Programme and for the first time in Philippine history a comprehensive, systematic and scholarly development map was made to guide the directions and operations of government. At the same time, the PIA marked the entry of technocrats or so-called Western-trained experts into government planning. On the one hand, the PIA was praised for being instrumental in professionalizing government planning. On the other hand, however, this was faulted for economic and development policies that seemed removed from Philippine realities, which owed to the fact that Diosdado Macapagal's team of technocrats was trained abroad and was therefore wont to using foreign development models and paradigms.

A second major achievement of the Diosdado Macapagal administration was the passage of the Land Reform Code in 1963. This piece of social legislation which aimed at eradicating tenancy in the farms surprisingly was passed by a landlord-dominated Congress. Critics, however, would say that the code was watered-down and had no teeth at all. For one, it exempted from its coverage the big farms. Second, it did not get financial support. And third, Diosdado Macapagal did not have enough time to implement the law.

As regards controversies and blunders, the Diosdado Macapagal administration had a fair share of them. The first of these was the so-called decontrol program which dismantled controls on trade and devalued the Philippine currency. According to critics, Diosdado Macapagal's decontrols virtually reversed Garcia's "Filipino-First" policy and were obviously made at the behest of foreign interests which under Garcia could only repatriate a portion of their profits from the Philippines. The consequences of this blunder, they said, were loss of investments and inflation, among others, small businesses were hurt the most by the controversial policy. What Diosdado Macapagal could have done, they said, was to make the decontrol gradual, selective and accompanied by safeguards. Incidentally, radical groups have chastised Ms Macapagal for her major role in championing the country's membership into the GATT-WTO, when she was still senator, without however legislating safety nets for sectors that would be adversely affected by the trade agreement.

Finally, the other controversial move by then President Diosdado Macapagal concerned the notorious American businessman Harry Stonehill, who was charged with bribing government, including Congress, in the course of erecting his business empire in the country. He had a "blue book" (like Singson's ledger) which contained names of people in government and media who received bribes from him in exchange for favors. Before Congress could finish its investigation however, Diosdado Macapagal unceremoniously deported Stonehill. To his critics, Diosdado Macapagal's move was a clear betrayal of his electoral promises of rooting out graft and corruption in government. Like her father, Ms Macapagal now faces the challenge of pursuing Estrada's graft cases in particular and in minimizing, if not totally eradicating, corruption in the bureaucracy. A Stonehill cop-out would surely be detrimental to her political career.

In the end, it was in the face of Diosdado Macapagal's failure to deliver on his electoral promises of alleviating the conditions of the poor and of eradicating graft and corruption that he lost his reelection bid to Ferdinand Marcos, in 1965.

In her many interviews, Ms Macapagal has reiterated that she does not aspire to be a great President, only a good one. Like her father. We hope, however that given her father's record, she would outdo her father. The success of civilizations, as they say, depend on generations besting the generations that went before them.

Time for People Power III

THERE has been a lot of talk about staging People Power III when and if particular circumstances occur. I suggest that People Power III take place on election day—May 14, 2001.

Let the people show their sovereign power through the ballot, by voting their conscience. Let the people show their power by ensuring that their votes are counted, by guarding them from the cheaters who are gravid with greed. Let the people show their power by booting out of office the reprobates in office and electing only candidates with proven integrity.

To the idealistic and patriotic youth, the potential leaders of our nation, exasperated with the present political system, the time for change is now. Like the inner voice that kept telling the lead character in the film "Field of Dreams," I likewise say to them—if you build it, they will come!—**JORIL SARTE, BDS-RRB, House of Representatives, Constitution Hills, Quezon City**

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The WORLD

MARGOT J. BATERINA, Editor

US spacecraft lands on asteroid

COLUMBIA, Maryland—With its rockets firing, an American spacecraft floated toward Eros, hit once, bounced high and then settled onto the barren rocky surface as mankind's first robot visitor to an asteroid.

A strong radio signal, interrupted only briefly during the bounce, proved that the craft that was never designed to land had, in fact, come to a featherlight touchdown on Eros, more than 315 million km from Earth, astounding even the officials overseeing the mission.

And it was still working.

It was the first time an American craft had made an initial unmanned landing on an outer space body, officials said. Unmanned Soviet craft arrived first on the moon, Venus and Mars.

"I am happy to report that the NEAR has touched down," mission director Robert Farquhar said in announcing the Monday landing a few minutes after 10 a.m. Monday. "We are still getting signals. It is still transmitting from the surface."

The 495-kg NEAR—Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous—beat long odds to make its spectacular landing. Engineers had said there was less than a 1-percent chance of it surviving the impact and some Nasa officials had forecast a "controlled crash," not a soft landing.

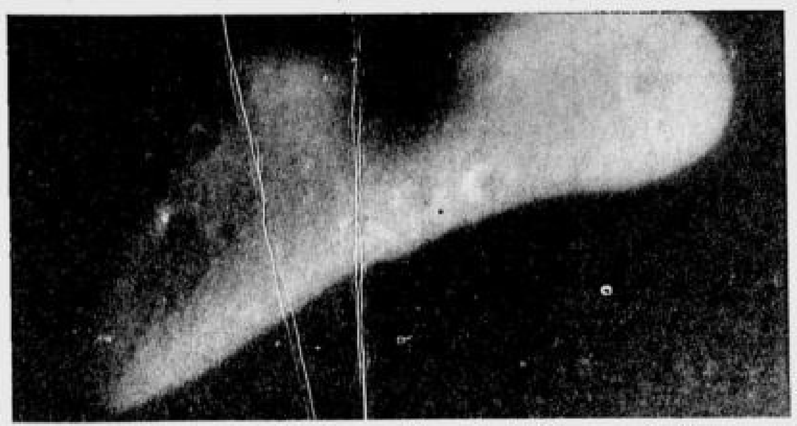
"We thought it would be all be over when it hit," Farquhar said. "This was a landing, not an impact."

Nasa administrator Dan Goldin said the achievement opens the way for later missions to asteroids and comets. He also admitted he never thought the NEAR landing effort would work.

"They pushed the boundaries," said Goldin. "Wonderful, bold, courageous, brilliant—those are the words that come to mind."

"They made a spacecraft that was only designed to orbit and then they put it down on an asteroid and it's still working," said Ed Weiler, the chief scientist at Nasa, the US space agency. "That is amazing."

Weiler said the NEAR landing taught valuable lessons that will help in future exploration of asteroids and comets. Such missions, he said, could be important if an asteroid such as Eros ever threatens the Earth. A similar space mountain is thought to have killed the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. *AP*



THIS is a February 2000 file photo of the asteroid Eros acquired by space probe NEAR at a range of 1,800 kilometers. REUTERS

WORLDBRIEFS

Suharto pal back to jail

JAKARTA—A court ordered a close business partner of former Indonesian president Suharto, Muhammad "Bob" Hasan, back to prison for another 30 days, officials said. Hasan, who has appealed against a two-year jail sentence handed down two weeks ago for corruption, went back to the Salemba prison in Central Jakarta early Tuesday morning, prison guard Wibowo, said. The Central Jakarta district court found Hasan guilty of causing losses to the state of $244 million through a fraudulent aerial mapping survey awarded 11 years ago, but allowed him to return home and serve out his term under house arrest. Hasan, appointed Suharto's minister of trade in 1997, was the first of the former dictator's cronies to be taken to court for corruption, and the first to be convicted after Suharto's downfall in May 1998. *AFP*

Aussies used in drug trials

SYDNEY—Thousands of Australians have been unwittingly used as guinea pigs in drug trials for international companies and have no laws to adequately protect their rights, it was reported Tuesday. Children and intellectually disabled men and women are among those included in the trials, The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper said. The tests are aimed at getting new drugs approved for the United States and European markets, it said. *AP*

Plea for Afghan refugees

ISLAMABAD—Faced with one of its worst refugee situations, the United Nations Monday sent a top official to the region to evaluate the plight of hundreds of thousands of Afghans living in wretched conditions in camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Undersecretary General Kenzo Oshima met with Pakistan's Foreign Minister Abdul Sattar who issued a plea on behalf of his poor country for more assistance to feed, clothe and house more than 170,000 Afghans who have arrived here in the last five months. They have been driven from their homes by drought and war. *AP*

US closes Taliban office

UNITED NATIONS—The United Nations said it opposes a US decision to close the New York office of Afghanistan's ruling Taliban militia, claiming the move could hurt the world body's efforts to end the country's 20-year civil war. The United Nations wants the Taliban to maintain a New York office so it can continue political contacts and efforts to alleviate the current humanitarian crisis, which has seen 500,000 Afghans flee their homes in the past year because of drought and war, senior UN envoy Francesc Vendrell said Monday. *AP*

Thai key border closed

MAE SAI, Thailand—Thailand closed a key border checkpoint Tuesday and sent troop reinforcements following heavy fighting with Burma when this border town came under mortar attack. Col. Wanthip Wongwai of Thailand's Pha Muang border task force said Burma sent "heavy reinforcements into the area" and "we are also doing that to ensure the security and sovereignty of the nation." "The situation has become more tense," he said. *AP*

'Site infringed copyright'

SAN FRANCISCO—An appeals court Monday ruled that Napster violated copyright law by allowing Internet users to swap copyrighted music files, but stopped short of ordering an immediate shutdown of the wildly popular website. The decision by a three judge panel was met with cheers from the record industry, and anger and sadness from advocates of Napster, a controversial site that lets users easily swap digitized music files across the Internet. The case stems from an injunction, issued in July by US District Court Judge Marilyn Hall, which effectively would have shut down the entire site, making Napster liable for all copyrighted material it was moving between users. *AFP*

Air force brass charged

SANTIAGO—Chile's air force, invoking national security law, demanded Monday that criminal charges be filed against those who have accused its second in command of participating in the torture of political prisoners during the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. The demand to the Santiago Court of Appeals came just hours after Gen. Hernan Gabrielli strongly denied the allegation and said he also would sue those responsible for making it. *AFP*

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Anwar rejects gov't terms to see foreign spine doctor

KUALA LUMPUR—Jailed Malaysian politician Anwar Ibrahim must undergo spinal surgery soon but has rejected "cruel" government conditions under which he can consult a foreign specialist, his wife said Tuesday.

"After studying the conditions of the approval, we are disappointed because they are oppressive and unjust," Wan Azizah Wan Ismail told a news conference after visiting her husband in hospital Monday.

"They would be considered cruel if applied to any patient . . ."

She added: "It appears to be a charade to deflect allegations against the government that Anwar Ibrahim was denied his rights as a patient."

Lawyer Sankara Nair, who also saw Anwar, said the ex-deputy premier refused to sign the government's offer letter. Nair said he would write to the government in the next few days offering counter-proposals.

Anwar, who is serving a total of 15 years in jail but sees himself as a political prisoner, has been in the government's Kuala Lumpur hospital since Nov. 25 with acute back pain due to a slipped disc.

The government Saturday rejected calls for Anwar, 53, to undergo surgery overseas. But it said Munich-based Dr. Thomas Hoogland could be brought in to examine him and to operate in Malaysia if necessary.

Among its five conditions are that Anwar must bear all the costs and that he will be solely responsible for any and all risks and disabilities involved in or consequential to the specialist's treatment.

The German must also arrive within 14 days from Saturday, the treatment will be done entirely in the Kuala Lumpur hospital and must be witnessed by local specialists.

Anwar must accept all the terms in writing.

Hospital orthopaedic chief Muhamad Borhan Tan has said Anwar could suffer partial paralysis, weakness in the legs or bladder or bowel problems without a speedy operation. He has been offered conventional spinal surgery but his family and lawyers say he needs endoscopic microsurgery, which would best be conducted overseas in a specialist spinal center. *AFP*

Muslims blame quake on TV ads

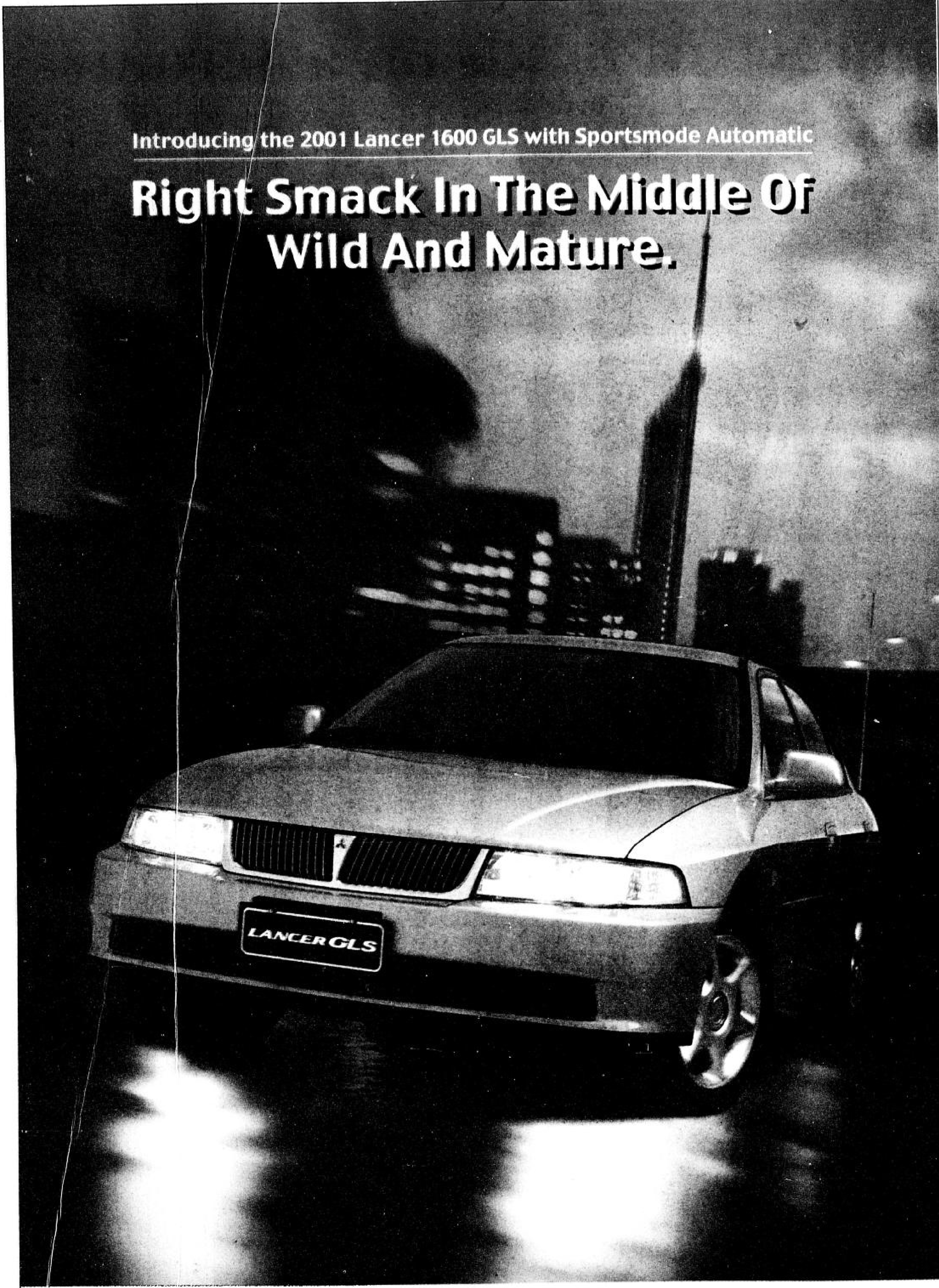
AHMADABAD, India—Conservative Muslims in quake-ravaged Gujarat continued their television smashing spree Tuesday after clerics blamed the massive temblor on the corrupting influence of broadcast programs and commercials.

Muslim residents of Ahmadabad and Surat, 925 km southwest of New Delhi, destroyed hundreds of sets by throwing them off rooftops or by smashing them with iron rods.

In Surat alone, some 400 television sets were destroyed after a Muslim cleric, Mufti Imtiaz, said television was the cause of the earthquake and the destruction that followed.

"The mufti has told us about the poisoning of minds through television, which has made the almighty angry and this is what caused the earthquake" said Abdulbhai Guliwala, a shopkeeper in the Dhalgarwad neighborhood of Ahmadabad, the state's commercial center.

Guliwala flung his television set off the roof of his house. "I just carried out the order of the mufti. We have annoyed Allah. Can't you see the devastation caused by the earthquake?" he said. *AP*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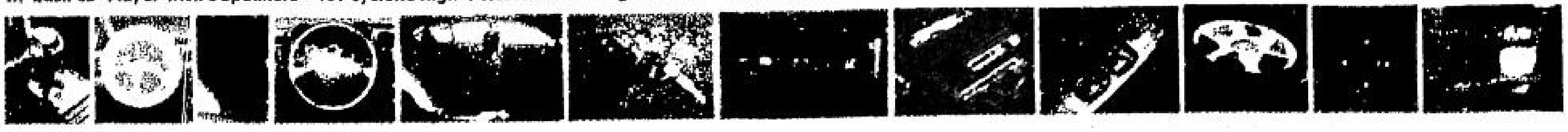

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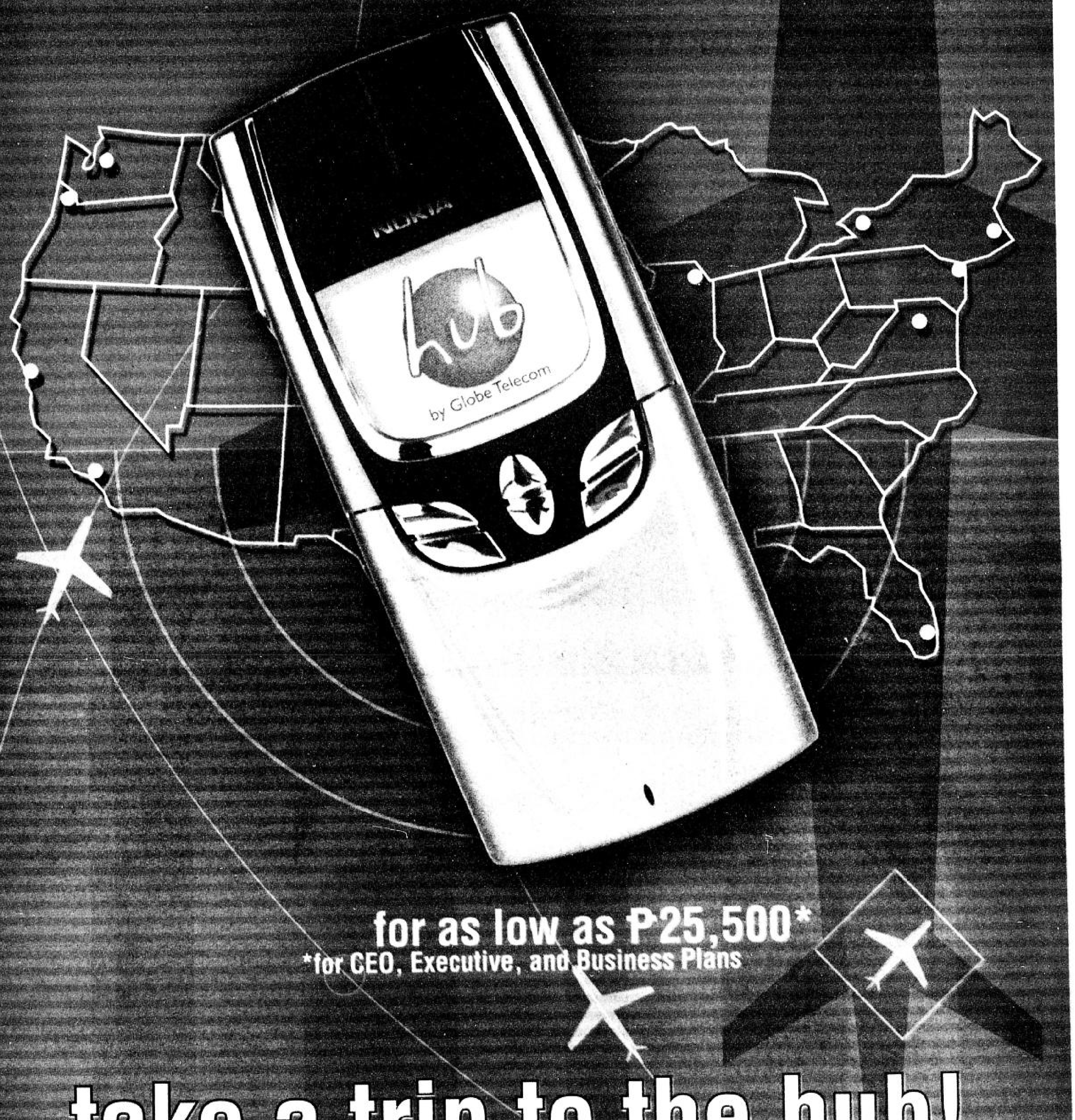

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Navy uses deep-sea robot to search for 9 fishers

HONOLULU—Family members of nine Japanese men and boys feared lost when a US submarine crashed into their fishing trawler, were taken to the accident site where they tossed flowers into the sea, calling out the names of their loved ones.

The Navy and Coast Guard, meanwhile, widened their search to cover 25,600 sq. km. and said a decision would be made Tuesday about continuing to look for the four students, two instructors and three crew members.

The Navy will use a deep-sea robot to investigate the ocean floor where a Japanese fishing vessel sank after it was struck by a US submarine, the head of the US Pacific Command said Monday.

Adm. Dennis Blair said the inspection would help determine the feasibility of a salvage operation for the Ehime Maru requested by Japanese leaders and relatives of nine men and teenage boys feared entombed in the ship.

Blair spoke after meeting with Yoshitaka Sakurada, Japan's parliamentary secretary for foreign affairs, to discuss Friday's sinking of the vessel off Oahu.

At a press conference, both men said US-Japanese relations should not be damaged by the tragedy and Blair said the massive search "will continue as if it were our own countrymen." *AP*

THANKS TO DNA TEST

REUTERS

Earl Washington (right) walks with Marie Deans, a member of his legal team, to a press conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia, Feb. 12. Washington, who came within nine days of execution in 1985, was freed from prison Feb. 12 after a DNA test cleared him of a brutal rape and murder for which he spent 10 years on death row.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

E. EXCEL INTERNATIONAL (PHILS.), INC., a distributor of natural health foods, announced that 27 employees have recently resigned. The company is informing the public that all transactions entered into by its former employees will not be honored by E. Excel Int'l (Phils.), Inc.

The following is the list of former employees of E. Excel Int'l (Phils.), Inc. including the effectivity date of their resignation:

1. Administrative Division Manager **SARAH JANE L. CHONG**, *31 January 2001*;
2. Assistant Audit Manager **MARIA LOURDES P. ELARDO**, *31 December 2000*;
3. IT Manager **RICKY T. CATANA**, *31 January 2001*;
4. Davao Branch Supervisor **TIRSO B. ARNADO**, *20 January 2001*;
5. Iligan Branch Supervisor **JAIDA G. PEPITO**, *20 January 2001*;
6. Cebu Branch Supervisor **GRACE NEILLY S. QUERICKIOL**, *18 January 2001*;
7. Baguio Branch Supervisor **YOLANDA A. QUIAÑO**, *15 January 2001*
8. Manila Branch Supervisor **JOYCE VERNADETH B. CRUZ**, *15 January 2001*
9. Makati Branch Supervisor **RUSSELITO S. LAGDAN**, *15 January 2001*
10. Cagayan De Oro Branch Supervisor **ARLENE J. RADAZA**, *20 January 2001*
11. Systems Administrator **NANCY D. DEL ROSARIO**, *15 January 2001*
12. LAN Administrator **EUMIR B. NOGALES**, *15 January 2001*
13. Network Specialist/Technical Support **ARNOLD T. MIRANDA**, *31 January 2001*
14. Systems Analyst Programmer **ERWIN M. MAQUERA**, *15 January 2001*
15. IT Specialist **IVY V. ESMERIA**, *31 January 2001*
16. Audit Specialist **MAY GUEN C. ABELLON**, *15 January 2001*
17. Senior General Affairs Coordinator **MONALISA R. NATIVIDAD**, *15 January 2001*
18. Cebu Customer Service Representative **MARIA LUISA P. CONGMON**, *15 January 2001*
19. Cebu IT Coordinator **ROMEO KIRBY R. LEDESMA JR.**, *15 January 2001*
20. Cebu Order Counter Representative **CATHY GAIL P. BINOYA**, *31 January 2001*
21. Makati Customer Service Representative **DONNABEL A. GARCIA**, *27 December 2000*
22. Makati Inventory Control Service Assistant **RONALD C. CORONA**, *15 February 2001*
23. Cebu Order Counter Representative **DIABELLE MARIE T. SINGCO**, *19 February 2001*
24. Cebu Customer Service Representative **RIA AMANDA S. GARCIA**, *15 February 2001*
25. Naga OIC-Order Counter Representative **ARMI C. RENTORIA**, *24 February 2001*
26. General Affairs Coordinator **PEARLY E. MUHI**, *15 February 2001*
27. Customer Service Asso.-Network Informtion **RACHEL AMOR J. RAMIREZ**, *15 February 2001*

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Rights group cites China use of torture to get confession

BEIJING—To force a young woman to admit to prostitution, Chinese police officers stuffed a sock in her mouth and sexually assaulted her. In an east China labor camp, a prisoner died after beatings ordered by a guard.

These cases were among dozens Amnesty International cited in a report Monday that said torture and ill-treatment of prisoners and detainees "is widespread and systemic" in China. The London-based rights group said that the government is not doing enough to combat the problem.

Those perpetrating abuses include not only police and prison officers, but also those outside the criminal justice system: tax collectors, family planners, neighborhood watch groups, business security guards who tortured and killed complaining customers and even park attendants who detained and beat a man with an electric baton for walking on the grass, Amnesty wrote.

In southern China, birth control officials tortured 30-year-old farmer Zhou Jianxiong to death in 1998, beating and burning him and ripping off his genitals, to extract the whereabouts of his wife whom they suspected of having an unauthorized pregnancy, Amnesty said.

China's government says it opposes torture and is working to curb the problem. China's wholly state-run media has in recent years been allowed a somewhat freer hand to report on police and official abuses of people not accused of political crimes, helping in some cases to bring perpetrators to justice.

Amnesty cited a newspaper's report on the 10-year sentence of a labor camp official in east China for causing the death of a prisoner who was ordered beaten for trying to escape.

But it said Chinese laws against torture contain loopholes, abuses are rarely punished and tortured to extract confessions "remains commonplace." State media also almost never report allegations of abuse in political cases.

"Torture in China remains a major human rights concern. The range of officials resorting to it is expanding, as is the circle of victims," Amnesty said in a separate statement. "The government has acknowledged for many years that torture is a serious problem but has done little about it."

Amnesty published the report less than two weeks before International Olympic Committee inspectors visit Beijing to assess its bid for the 2008 Olympic Games. Concerns over rights abuses contributed to Beijing's narrow loss to Sydney for the 2000 Games.

The banned Falun Gong spiritual movement says its followers have been widely targeted for abuse and torture in the government's relentless 18-month crackdown on the group. Falun Gong says 143 practitioners have died. A Hong Kong-based rights group says it has tallied at least 112 deaths. *AP*

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

ROUNDUP

Flower festival starts

BAGUIO CITY—The Panagbenga 2001 or Baguio Flower Festival will kick off on Feb. 17 to affirm the city's distinction as among the country's top tourist destinations. John Hay Poro Point Development Corp. and Camp John Hay Development Corp., Panagbenga's main organizers, expect this year's festival to be bigger than the previous years' as more groups and schools have signified their intention to participate. As a prelude to the floral parade and street dancing competitions, a banner-painting activity was held Sunday. *PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Rapes alarm Tarlac folk

GERONA, Tarlac—Residents were alarmed when three girls, aged 6 to 13, were raped in separate incidents here. Reports said six high school students, who were believed to be drunk, raped their 13-year-old schoolmate on Jan. 29. Five days later, a 6-year-old girl was raped and abandoned in a house here. The girl, whose neck was slashed by her attacker, was taken to a hospital in critical condition. On Feb. 4, an 11-year-old girl accused one Luciano Acosta, 55, of sexually abusing her.

Russell Arador, PDI Central Luzon Desk

American nabbed

DAVAO CITY—Police on Saturday arrested an American at the Apo View Hotel here where he kept three children he reportedly had sex with. Child abuse cases were filed against Richard Burtness, 57, and the alleged pimp, Sherrel de Guzman, 26, who was arrested with him. Police recommended the American's deportation, saying he could be connected with international child prostitution syndicates. *Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

LAMP members join LP

CALAPAN CITY—The majority of incumbent elective members of the Laban ng Masang Pilipino of deposed President Joseph Estrada have transferred to the Liberal Party (LP). Gov. Rodolfo G. Valencia, along with 10 of the 15 mayors of Mindoro Occidental and at least seven of the 13 members of the provincial board, was welcomed back to the LP, Valencia's original party by provincial LP stalwart Luciano Joson, a retired associate justice of the Sandiganbayan. *Joel Jabal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Priest running vs 'trapos'

LUCENA CITY—"Running priest" Robert Reyes is set to run across the country to express his disgust over the ongoing political realignment in most parts of the country. He said seven of 10 politicians who are seeking public office were traditional politicians ("*trapos*"). He challenged the institutional Church to lead in the fight against "*trapos.*" *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Decide wisely, voters urged

LUCENA CITY—Leaders of the Kapatiran at Alyansang Alay Para sa Kaunlaran ng Bayan-Quezon said they would promote "collective reflection" on pressing social issues during the election campaign. Among the issues they plan to reflect on with the voters are the plight of coconut farmers, the critical environment situation, agrarian reform and the resurgence of "*trapos*" or traditional politicians. The campaign will be undertaken through forums, campus tours, flyers and leaflets. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

No bomb experts

BATANGAS CITY—The provincial and city police offices still have no bomb disposal units. This surfaced after workers recently found three World War II bombs at the construction site of the Provincial Sports Complex in Barangay Sta. Rita here. Supt. Restito Hernandez, city police chief, had to seek help from the police of Pasay City in Metro Manila for a bomb disposal unit to identify and detonate the bombs.

Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern Luzon and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila Hi 32° Lo 23°	**Baguio** Hi 26° Lo 13°	**Tuguegarao** Hi 30° Lo 22°	**Laoag** Hi 32° Lo 22°
Clark Zone Hi 32° Lo 21°	**Tagaytay** Hi 32° Lo 19°	**Legazpi** Hi 31° Lo 24°	**Calapan** Hi 31° Lo 24°
Bacolod Hi 32° Lo 24°	**Roxas** Hi 31° Lo 25°	**Cebu** Hi 31° Lo 24°	**Tacloban** Hi 31° Lo 24°
Gen. Santos Hi 31° Lo 23°	**Zamboanga** Hi 32° Lo 25°	**Cagayan de Oro** Hi 32° Lo 23°	**Davao** Hi 31° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

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Army offers ₱1-M reward for NPA leaders

By Vicente S. Labro
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—The Philippine Army based in Samar is offering P1 million as reward to anyone who can give information leading to the capture of five communist rebels who led Monday's attack on an Army patrol base that resulted in the death of seven soldiers.

Capt. Juanito Lucas, head of 8th Civil Affairs Unit of the Army's 8th Infantry Division based in Camp Lukban, Catbalogan, Samar, said a P200,000 reward would be given for the arrest of each of the five New People's Army leaders.

The rebels were identified as Carlito Salingsing, alias Terado, in his 50s; Naning Laboc, alias Payong' Felimon Gabane, alias Iloy or Dading' Amador Delantar, alias Butil; and Loreto Dacanay, alias Butchoy.

Lucas told Bombo Radyo in Tacloban that Dacanay headed the Armando Ortiz Command, the biggest of the NPA groups based in the tri-boundary of Samar, Western Samar and Northern Samar.

Seven soldiers were killed and five others were wounded when about 150 NPA rebels attacked an Army detachment at Barangay Babaclayon, San Jose de Buan, Samar, around 4 a.m. (not 5:30 a.m. as earlier reported) on Monday.

Lucas identified the fatalities as S/Sgt. Lucero de Guzman, of Can-avid, Eastern Samar; Ruben Quitalig of Barangay Kanan, Paniqui, Tarlac; Sgt. Gildy Jordan, of Catarman, Northern Samar; Pfc. Gil Fabregaras of Calbayog City; and Pfc. Rogelio Romano, Pfc. Ronnie Apolonio and Pfc. Ricky Opena, all of Catbalogan, Samar.

Their families will receive P100,000 each as death benefit.

Wounded were S/Sgt. Eugenio Balasbas, the detachment commander; Cpl. Samuel Cabote, Cpl. Rolando Rios, Sgt. Armando Labini and Sgt. Wilfredo Colis.

Reports reaching the police regional office based in Camp Ruperto Kangleon showed that the rebels took eight M-16 rifles, seven M-14 rifles and a radio set.

Maj. Gen. Rufo de Veyra, 8th ID chief, told Bombo Radyo that a militiaman, who was at the detachment during the attack, was missing. He did not identify the militiaman.

De Veyra confirmed that the rebels took several high-powered arms from the detachment. Responding soldiers recovered an M-203 grenade launcher believed to have been left by the rebels.

The Army patrol base in Babaclayon was manned by 18 persons. But De Veyra said six were on leave and only 12 soldiers were present when the attack occurred.

Colis told reporters here that Cabote, who was on guard duty, first saw the rebels at about 4 a.m. which made him their target. An exchange of gunfire ensued.

The gun battle, he added, lasted about three and a half hours. Surrounded by the rebels and low in ammunition, the surviving soldiers abandoned the camp minutes before the rebels overran the military outpost.

Colis said he survived by hiding in a foxhole. *With reports from Cynthia A. Borgueta, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Solon defies Lakas execs

LIM

DE VENECIA

DAGUPAN CITY—Despite pressures from Malacañang for him not to pursue his reelection bid against former Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr., Pangasinan Rep. Benjamin Lim filed his certificate of candidacy Monday.

Lim said he received calls from President Macapagal-Arroyo and former President Fidel V. Ramos asking him to give way to De Venecia and to consider a mayoral post here.

De Venecia ran and lost to ousted President Joseph Estrada in the 1998 elections.

"It is not easy for me to turn down FVR (Ramos). It is even harder to refuse the President. I believe, however, that Malacañang is not the right venue to settle the issue. I believe that it is best to let the people decide on the matter," he said in a statement.

Lim, former general manager of Duty Free Philippines, accused De Venecia of using his position as Lakas-NUCD national chair to gain undue advantage within the party and of seeking the "direct intervention of (Ramos) and Ms Macapagal on the issue."

He said he decided to run after a "deep soul-searching" and after consulting with political and sectoral leaders who assured him of their "trust and unwavering support and who have remained insistent as before that I seek reelection."

Lim, who represents the province's fourth district, said he could not ignore the "overwhelming clamor" of the people for him to seek reelection.

"I do not want to deprive them of their basis to have an alternative choice. Therefore, I submit myself for re-election. I leave my fate to the people and God," he said.

De Venecia has been asking Lim to give up his bid to enable him to regain his old position as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

But Lim said while he was not selfish to deny the opportunity to De Venecia, he does not believe that the former Speaker can regain his position.

"Things have changed. There are now many bright, progressive and much younger congressmen who are also eminently qualified for the position. It is likely that the younger set will prevail in the next contest for the House speakership," he said.

Lim admitted that the mayoral race strongly appealed to him. He, however, said there are already many candidates for the position.

"The people of Dagupan have enough qualified and well-meaning candidates to choose from. I do not want to complicate the situation. Neither do I want to confuse the people any further," he added.

Among those who plan to run for mayor here are former Manila Times publisher Ermin Garcia Jr., Dagupan Vice Mayor Teodoro Manaois, former Baguio City Mayor Ramon Labo Jr., Councilor Fred Quinto and Liberato Reyna Jr., a son of former Dagupan Mayor Liberato Reyna Sr. *Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

4 guards charged with murder

BACOLOD CITY—Murder charges were filed yesterday against four persons, believed to be security guards of a disputed property in a southern town, for allegedly shooting and killing a land reform beneficiary and wounding two others on Feb. 10.

Charged before the Municipal Trial Court in La Castellana were Gerry Pineda, Gerry Manaay, Federico Tubong and Lito Silverio.

Senior Insp. Placido Composa, La Castellana police chief, said the four were also charged with violation of the gun ban, which was imposed by the Commission on Elections on Jan. 2, the start of the election period.

He said he would file charges of attempted murder and frustrated murder against the four for shooting and wounding two others and for firing back at Army soldiers.

Of the four, only Tubong was arrested. Composa said Tubong had an identification card showing he was an employee of Galela Security Agency.

Composa said the other suspects could also be security guards hired by Farley Gustilo to look after his property in Barangay Mansalanao, La Castellana, 87.3 kilometers south of this city.

The four were accused of killing Ronilo Varquez, 24, and wounding his brother Ronilo and Azucena Deliva.

The Varquez brothers were among 80 holders of Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs) for the 169-hectare property owned by Gustilo. The land has been placed under the government's Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

Deliva lived inside the hacienda.

But Gustilo reportedly did not recognize the CLOAs. He reassumed ownership of the property through a court order and started harvesting the sugarcane planted by the land reform beneficiaries, according to the police chief.

On Feb. 10, the Varquez brothers went to the hacienda and harvested the sugarcane, said Leticia Varquez, the victims' mother. But the guards fired at them, she said. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Giant waves batter villages

DAVAO CITY—Some 600 families were displaced when giant waves washed away houses, roads and other infrastructure facilities in six coastal villages in Malita, Davao del Sur, on Sunday night and Monday.

No one was reported killed or hurt.

The waves also destroyed the seawalls protecting the fishing villages of Poblacion, Lais, Kulaman, Talukanga, Mana and Tingulo exposing houses in these areas to calamity, reports reaching the Office of the Civil Defense (OCD) here said.

Antonio Cloma, OCD operations chief, said the waves damaged 40 houses, forcing the villagers to flee to safe areas.

Strong waves started battering the affected regions during high tide on Sunday night.

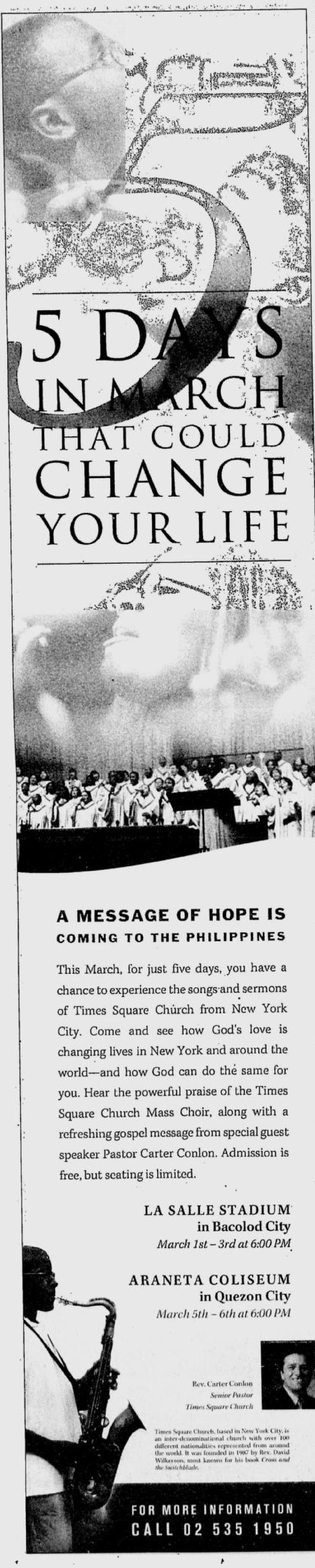
Cloma said the waves were triggered by northeasterly winds caused by the inter-tropical convergence zone north of Davao Gulf.

He said the Malita disaster office had yet to assess the damage.

Portions of the road connecting Malita to San Marcelino town were destroyed, forcing local authorities to reroute traffic to the mountainous portion of these areas.

Cloma said his agency was baffled at the occurrence of giant waves since the northeasterly winds usually strike the Davao Gulf area in July.

Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau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Slain radioman's widow seeks Macapagal help

PAGADIAN CITY—The family of Olympio Jalapit Jr. has asked President Macapagal-Arroyo for help in seeking justice for the killing of the radio broadcaster more than three months ago.

It accused local authorities of doing nothing despite reports that suspects had already been identified.

Lawyer Friolo Icao, district chief of the National Bureau of Investigation and head of the Jalapit task force, shrugged off the allegation as "part of the job" even as he assured Jalapit's family that his men were not sleeping on the case.

"Just give us a little trust and faith in solving this case," Icao said.

Jalapit, news anchor of RMN-dxPR Radyo Agong, was gunned down on Nov. 17 last year while he was on his way to the house of then Environment Secretary Antonio Cerilles for a dialogue with his wife, Rep. Aurora Cerilles.

Jalapit's widow Gina, 34, sent a letter to the President on Monday asking for her intervention.

In a letter written in Filipino, she said her family had received reports that the NBI and the police had already identified the culprits, "but they did nothing."

She told Ms Macapagal that she was now left alone to take care of three children.

"I am only an ordinary teacher in our place, powerless, penniless and without any influence to match those we suspect (to be) behind the killing of my husband," she said.

Gina said the suspects wielded power and influence in the community. But she said she regained hope and courage to continue the fight for justice when Ms Macapagal assumed the presidency. ***Hernan P. de la Cruz, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

2nd burial of lahar town feared

BACOLOR, Pampanga—Protests are again seething in Bacolor, the country's capital in the 18th century and which was buried by Mt. Pinatubo's eruptions and lahar 10 years ago.

Fearing the second burial of this lahar-covered town, residents here and in seven resettlement sites staged a protest rally on Sunday to convince Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong to stop a Japanese-funded dike project.

The protest was timed during a dialogue with officials of the Department of Public Works and Highway's Mount Pinatubo Emergency project management office (DPWH-MPE), according to Fr. Nestor Tayag, Bacolor parish priest.

The DPWH-MPE is implementing the rehabilitation of the San Fernando-Sto. Tomas-Minalin tail dike and the construction of evacuation roads. The project is part of the P3.5-billion Pinatubo Hazard Urgent Mitigation Project-Phase II.

Amando Ramirez, DPWH project director, said the tail dike, built by the private sector, must be strengthened to "protect the residents."

In a department report, Ramirez said though that the tail dike was built because "of the fear that lahar may jump out of the designed expected confinement area in the megadike and go straight to San Fernando."

"Previous events in the Pasig-Potrero (river) indicated that lahar is most likely to flow toward the east, at the direction of San Fernando," he said.

However, the construction of a network of seven-meter high evacuation roads will enclose Bacolor's southern villages. The widening of the Gugu Creek from 20 meters to 120 meters will lead lahar and floodwater to flow toward the town, according to engineer Perry Santiago.

This design, which again secures the City of San Fernando, invites a repeat of the 1995 Cabalantian tragedy, Santiago, a technical consultant of the Concerned Residents of Bacolor (Core-Bacolor), warned.

In that event on Oct. 1, 1995, a 15-foot high lahar rampaged through the village at midnight and ruptured the Gugu Dike. It submerged hundreds of houses and buried nearly 100 residents.

By 1996, the DPWH enclosed 16 of the town's 21 villages within the 56-km FVR Megadike, a P2.3-billion lahar-confining structure.

"Rather than help the town rehabilitate, the government is placing us near danger of being buried again," Ester Pagcu-Alfonso, spokesperson of the Lakas at Ugnayan ng Mamamayang Biktimang Nagkakaisa, said.

Ten years after Mt. Pinatubo erupted and its lahar erased the town from Pampanga's map, some 2,000 families have permanently returned to Bacolor.

These and about 6,000 others come back during the sunny months to resume farm work in 7,000 hectares of farmlands and fishponds, said Jose Cunanan, chair of the farmers' group Aguman da reng Maldang Talapagobra queng Gabun.

More than 10,000 students from resettlement sites are enrolled now at the revived Don Honoria Ventura College of Arts and Trade, one of the country's oldest vocational schools founded by the benefactor of the late President Diosdado Macapagal, Alfonso said.

She said the DPWH-MPE has misled the residents by presenting only a partial design.

Santiago suggested it was better that all lahar and floodwater be trained toward the Pasig-Potrero river.

"What would be the purpose of the FVR Megadike if it will not be used?" he asked.

Of the project components, residents want the DPWH only to continue reviving the Old MacArthur Highway. Old water channels should also be retained as irrigation and not widened as drainage outlets.

"Secretary Datumanong must realize we want a safe rehabilitation program that is supportive of the initiatives the residents to overcome the Pinatubo disaster," Alfonso said.

Arguing that the project was sound, Ramirez said it had drawn vigilant concerns because of "lack of information on the project, which was compounded with misinterpretations by the affected residents from irresponsible information sources." ***Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

'Kalikasters': A new breed of reporters

LUCENA CITY—A new breed of reporters has emerged in Southern Tagalog.

The pioneer batch of environmental reporters or "Kalikasters" is composed of farmers from the slopes of Mt. Banahaw, fisherfolk from the shores of Tayabas Bay, homemakers, students, local government officials, and a faculty member from the Southern Luzon Polytechnic College in Lucban, Quezon.

After two days of learning the basics of radio and print media reporting, the first batch of 25 "Kalikasters" are now raring to join the ranks of journalists in the region, focusing on gathering information about environmental concerns.

"With the critical state of our environment, we need to have a new breed of reporters to help pursue environmental protection," said lawyer environmentalist Asis Perez, chief of Tanggol-Kalikasan (TK) in Southern Tagalog.

TK is the legal defense center of Haribon Foundation, a national environmental nongovernment organization.

Perez lamented the "seeming lack" of interest by journalists in advocating environmental protection.

"Save for a committed few, it seems that most members of the media profession are more interested in crimes, sex, politics and other hot and juicy items," he noted.

As a first test of their newly acquired skill, some of the members of the batch reported live on Jan. 27 for the "Kasama ng Kalikasan," (Companion of Nature), a weekly program of TK aired simultaneously on local radio dwTI and television Channel 8.

Most of them were jittery but they managed to deliver their reports without any hitches.

"I can't believe that I would someday become a radio reporter," said Carmen Cabiling, a farmer's wife from Barangay Sampaloc Bugon, Sariaya, Quezon, after phoning in her report.

Menchi Budino of Radyo ng Bayan, a resource person during the training, said the greenhorn reporters had surpassed the test.

"They all delivered their reports good enough to warrant a second reporting. As a matter of fact, I'm now inclined to ask them to also report for our daily programming," said Mulanay Mayor Joselito Ojeda, president and chief executive officer of Con-Amor Broadcasting.

Perez said some members of the batch, who are more interested in writing, would become contributors for Kasama ng Kalakasan, a newspaper published by TK.

The Kalikaster program, he added, would soon be replicated in other parts of the region.

"We need a multitude of these committed 'species' to advance the cause of saving Mother Earth," he said. ***Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Soldiers capture 7 'lumad' rebels

DAVAO CITY—Army soldiers on Saturday captured seven B'laans in a raid on a New People's Army training camp in the hinterland area of Kiblawan, Davao del Sur.

Col. Felipe Beroya, chief of the Army's 701st brigade, said the *lumads* were NPA recruits who were sent to join a military training at the rebels' makeshift camp in Sitio Alto in Barangay Abnate, Kiblawan.

Those arrested were brought to the 68th IB headquarters at Barangay Cogon in Sta. Cruz town for interrogation.

Beroya said most of about 30 rebels reportedly training at the camp were able to escape without firing a shot at the Army.

He said the rebels, who were lined up in troop formation before the Army staged its surprise attack, scampered toward different directions. Some of them reportedly panicked and ran toward the soldiers' positions.

Beroya said the rebels left at least 17 firearms, ammunition and documents.

The camp is believed to be maintained by the Front Committee 71 of the Far South Mindanao Regional.Party Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

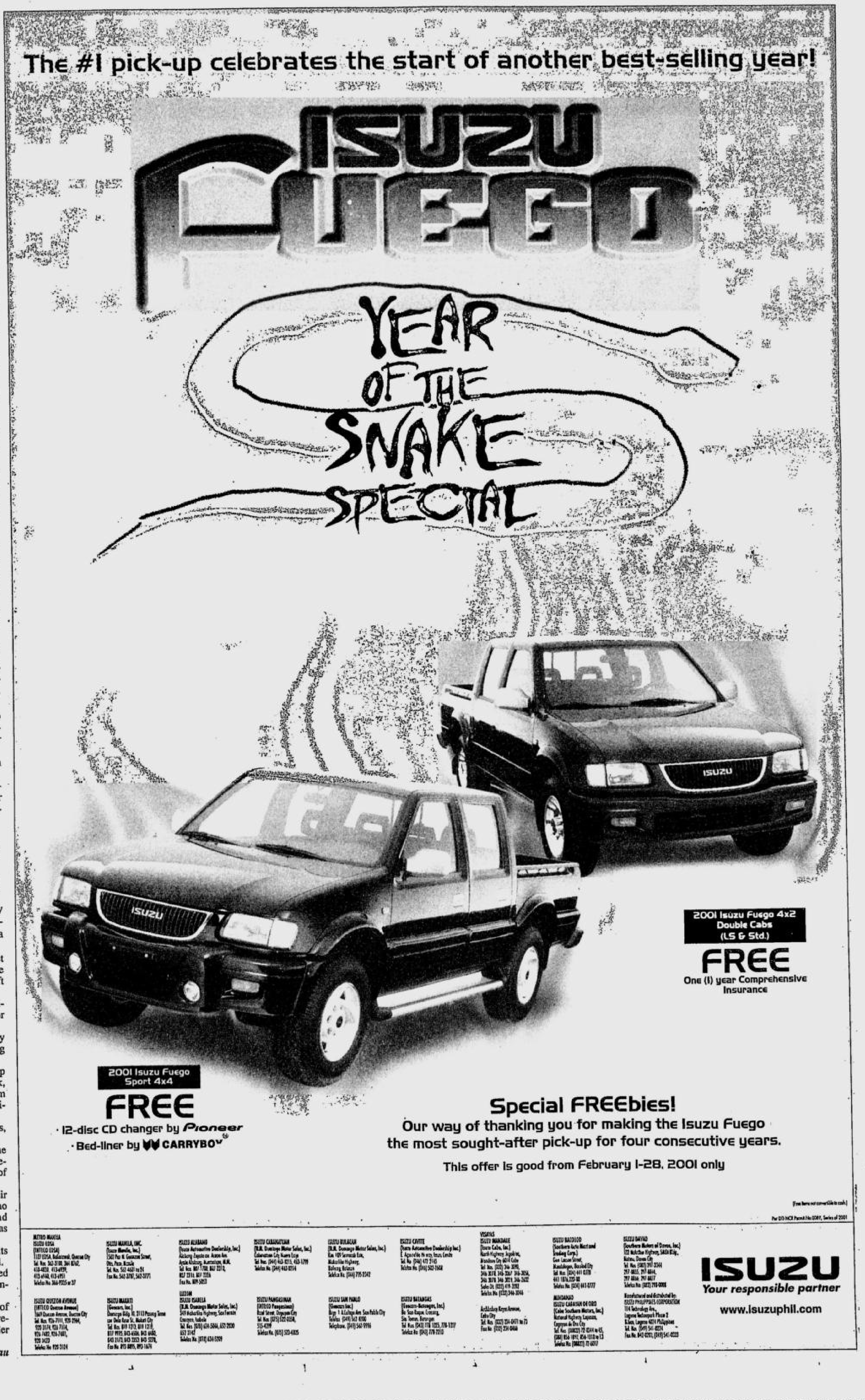
Beroya said the rebels have been expanding their operations, especially in the hinterland areas of Davao del Sur, Davao del Norte, Davao Orienal and Compostela Valley, and in this city using *lumads* as their main force.

"The rebels are relying heavily on *lumad* recruits because they can be easily influenced," Beroya said.

On Monday, a human rights alliance denounced reports of intensified military operations in the countryside.

Beng Hernandez, deputy secretary general of Karapatan, said that in some villages, the Army reportedly regulated the movement of residents in order to isolate guerrillas operating in the area.

Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau



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Macapagal sisters now at peace with each other

THE MACAPAGAL FAMILY: (Front row, from left) President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, the late President Diosdado Macapagal and Cielo Macapagal-Salgado. (Second row, from left) Diosdado Macapagal Jr., the late Dr. Evangelina Macaraeg-Macapagal and Arthur Macapagal. This undated photo was taken from the book, "Jesus Christ: Yesterday, Today and Forever."

BY TONETTE OREJAS
City of San Fernando

THERE'S something in the word "healing," one which President Macapagal-Arroyo wanted to attain in the country, that makes Cielo Macapagal-Salgado light up.

Between the half-sisters, the healing has come to pass some years ago, unburdening the President of family pressures at a time when politicians were fiercely jockeying for positions and attention.

"I wouldn't give her any of those. My (emotional) wounds have healed and I would not want to reopen those," Salgado, a two-time Pampanga vice governor, said.

She has retired from politics, preferring to be involved in civic groups and in the Flames of Fire for Jesus healing ministry.

To Salgado, their days of sibling rivalry, strained later by political differences—the President is with the Lakas-NUCD and she, with the Liberal Party that coalesced with the Lapian ng Masang Pilipino—have long been over.

She said that what only held them together then was their love and respect for the one great man in their lives, the late President Diosdado Macapagal.

Salgado was the late President's daughter by Purita de la Rosa, who died of tuberculosis at 27. Arroyo was by the late Dr. Eva Macaraeg of Binalonan, Pangasinan.

Made to believe by relatives that her mother was going to come back, Salgado, then 7 years old when the late President remarried, refused her stepmother, her disciplinarian ways and the doting attention she showered her real daughter.

It was, she noted, a reconciliation that was arduous, as difficult as Salgado's almost two decades of healing sick people through praying, Bible-reading and singing, and her own two battles against cancer.

How Salgado surpassed her personal differences with the President is shared in the meditation book, "Jesus Christ: Yesterday, Today and Forever" which she published early last year.

Spiritual journey

In the 64-page book where she presented her own spiritual journey and the renewal of hope she witnessed in sick persons, Salgado talked little of then Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, except to thank her for her "understanding."

She traced much of the hurting to her relationship with Mommy Eva.

"Our stepmother was a disciplinarian. Like any person, she had her pluses and minuses. As far as I was concerned, rightly or wrongly, her minuses were more marked."

"When my Dad was away, she made me clean the house, the bathroom, etc. I was only 7 years old. When I was 9, I would go to the market. When I was 11, I could do the budgeting and manage the house when she accompanied my Dad on trips abroad," she recalled in the book.

Salgado said she rarely played games. "I played only when she wasn't around."

She longed for her mother but was unable to fill the emotional void. She tried several times to take her own life.

She found peace in the teachings and the caring ways of Catholic nuns and in daily Masses and communion.

But the "emptiness in my heart continued," filling it through an early marriage.

The late President approved of it, but her stepmother admonished her for "leaving my father."

"She even said, '*Sana maghirap ka*' (May you become poor) after the wedding. I had romantic notions that marrying can make one live happily ever after. Although my stepmother probably did not mean what she said, this remark made me decide never to seek her help in any way."

The communication gap between her and her stepmother "widened when she was First Lady of our land."

Greatest fear

"I have experienced a lot of rejection, embarrassment, humiliation and agony. Although God had healed me, these negative memories still bother me. Because of my early childhood experiences, the hangup to be left alone by a loved one is my greatest fear in life," Salgado said.

She reconciled with the former first lady in 1971, but the relationship soured again in 1998 when Salgado became Joseph Estrada's choice for Pampanga governor.

"This political decision meant once again getting the ire of Mommy. Our relationship became strained once more at that time because Gloria was her party's choice to run for the presidency," she said.

The anger dragged for quite a time, with Salgado waiting for a few months before she was allowed to visit her stepmother in her sick bed.

Their last hours together were of peace. "I asked Mommy to forgive me for any hurt I may have caused her and she said, '*Ganon din ako*' (Me, too)," she said.

"I thank God for Mommy Eva. I will be grateful for everything she did for me for the 13 years I lived with them. I have learned great lessons in my life," Salgado writes in the book. "If you only love those who love you, what good is that? Even pagans do that."

"Looking back, I only regret that we could have been more loving and forgiving to each other. Life is so short to be wasted in hurt, bitterness and anger. No wonder Jesus commanded us to love one another."

It is this realization, Salgado said, that prodded her to reconcile with Ms Macapagal, to leave everything that was bad between them and to begin anew, like real, loving sisters.

"To be healed means to forgive and be forgiven," Salgado said, reciting it like a life-learned prayer.

Now, it's online matchmaking

BY MAURICE MALANES
Baguio City

IF some men say it with roses and choco lates, women of the world—from Dagupan City and Davao to the United States, Canada and Europe—are saying it through the Internet.

Thanks to information technology, women seeking love and friendship can search and choose their ideal male friends, if not mates or would-be husbands, beyond the borders of ethnic origin, race, country, region and continent.

And this is not even simply about online Valentine Cards, which one can easily download from any of the major commercial websites and which he or she can e-mail to someone else.

This is about online matchmaking where women, all accomplished in their careers, are posting the qualities they expect from the men of their dreams and the ways they can get in touch with them.

But the online matchmaking network called "Biomatch" unfortunately also advertises women as though they are products for sale.

A 23-year-old, slim woman from Dagupan City, who is of average height and a non-smoker, for example, is being billed as "the most attractive lady in the world." She says she is looking for a man "who will be my husband—one who is very kind, understanding, faithful and single."

Introducing herself, she says, "I'm sweet and very friendly, and my hobbies are cooking, watching television and playing volleyball."

Addressing her ideal man, the Dagupeña, who takes pride in her Asian heritage, says, "If you're the one I'm looking for, why not drop me a line?"

Any man who sees the ad and is interested is instructed to click his computer mouse to the bottom of the ad, which says, "Click here to respond to this ad mailbox."

The catchy heading of an ad from a slim boutique custodian from Davao City also reads, "Get me now . . . You won't regret."

"Hello there! I'm Lorelei, but my friends call me Ching," the Davaoeña identifies herself. "I'm 25 years old, and have brown hair and deep-seated eyes. My mom says I'm beautiful."

'Lover of life'

She describes herself as "a lover of life" and enjoys "being around with humorous people" because she herself has "a great sense of humor."

She says she loves movies and music as much as she loves to dance the night away.

Of her ideal man, she says she likes someone "between 26 and 30 years old." But the man must be "truthful, responsible, considerate, sincere, understanding, a gentleman and he must have an awesome sense of humor."

As an enticing parting shot, she says, "It's not the pale moon that excites me, but it's the nearness of you. So if you are out there, let's start NOW."

Another woman from Iligan City, who describes herself as a "simple, loving and sweet young lady," must have had some terrible experiences with the arrogance of some men whom she must have had encountered.

To drive home what she likes in a man, the 28-year-old seeker says what she hates. "I hate arrogant and self-centered people. I want to make friends with people who don't underestimate me and who are open to know different cultures."

She says she is looking for somebody who is "sincere, kind, sweet, humble, compassionate, understanding and God-fearing."

Aside from also having "a great sense of humor," this ideal man, she says, must have a heart big enough "to accept the different beliefs and ideas of a person."

A 25-year-old woman from Mandaue City states her philosophy about love and relationship.

"I believe that love is like a plant, which you have to nurture in order for it to grow," says the Cebuana. She could be a single parent because she says she has children. "In a relationship, you both must work really hard in order for it to last. None of us is perfect, but we must do our best . . . to have a perfect life and a perfect marriage. Life is too short. We must live life to the fullest."

The long-haired, brown-complexioned lady, who loves to cook, read, dance and watch television, also states the qualities she is looking for in a man.

"Friendship first that would turn later into a meaningful relationship," she says. "I am looking for a man who is compassionate, loving, caring, understanding and stable."

Commonalities

Judging from the ideal qualities of men that they seek for, women from overseas have something in common with their Filipino counterparts.

The only difference is that while Filipino women, except for one from Cebu City, who advertised themselves did not post their photographs, other women from overseas included their charming 1.5" by 2" ID-size photos. The Cebuana not only posted her photo but also gave her full name and complete address and telephone number.

A sweet-smiling radio disc jockey from Guangzhou, Guangdong, China, says she is looking for "long-lasting love." She says she is 29 years old "but looks like 24. I'm . . . pretty, both inside and outside, and I have a good career."

Despite her success, she has a problem. "I have not met the right person for the past five years," she says. "I'm too busy to hang out and make new friends, so I (sought) the Internet.

"The one I'm looking for is simple. You don't have to be rich or handsome, but you have to be single and loyal!"

But she qualifies: "The most important is that we have to meet in person. So if you are planning to visit China soon, it might be you. Wish you are the one and only!"

From 38 samples of the online matchmaking ads, the women—Asian, Caucasian, African-American or Latin American, single, divorced or separated, barely 18 or 60, athletic or not, and slim or plump—all posted the qualities of their ideal men.

The men must be open-minded, intelligent, "alive," sincere, loyal, honest, thoughtful, attractive, smart, focused on their goals, monogamous, secure, romantic, accomplished in chosen field, and exciting to be with.

Other attributes include positive outlook in life, being sensitive in discovering "that special synergy that's created when two partners share and care," always being in high spirits, and being concerned about their health.

As with their Filipino counterparts, the women list sense of humor as what they also want from their would-be friends and mates.

RECYCLING DRIVE

New tack to beat garbage problem

BULACAN's provincial government has adopted a new approach to beat the garbage problem with the help of the private sector and a civic organization.

It recently launched, jointly with the municipal governments, the Rotary Clubs of Bulacan and the Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc. (CCBPI), a project to help recycle empty soft drink containers.

"This is a multipurpose project that will help us clean up Bulacan while instilling discipline and environmental consciousness among our people," said Gov. Josefina de la Cruz during the project launch last month.

She said the project aims to help generate supplementary income for residents, especially the poor.

Spearheaded by the Rotary Club of Meycauayan Northeast, the project is supported by CCBPI as part of its Mission PET (Pinoy Environment Team), a corporate campaign launched in December to buy empty aluminum cans and bottles at 50 centavos each.

"There is a real opportunity to turn what is generally considered waste into something valuable," Allan Pareja, CCBPI project director for Mission PET, said.

"We produce 26 million cans and about 5 million bottles of soft drinks per month in our Sta. Rosa plant alone. Just a million of these containers sold to our partner, Ching Bee Lim of Now Trading Concepts, through this project will translate to P500,000 in extra cash for sellers," he said.

CCBPI has set up a redemption center at Tropical Hut Meycauayan. The Bulacan Rotary clubs are adding three centers to support the project.

Eric Wycoco, Rotary International District 3770 governor, said prizes would be given to the club with the most number of empty containers collected and turned over to the Coca-Cola dealer during the pilot run of the project from January to June.

De la Cruz said she had asked the provincial administrator to appoint a counterpart coordinator for the project "to help ensure its success."

Eric Montinola, CCBPI senior assistant vice president, said the firm joined the Rotary clubs and the provincial government in promoting environmentalism.

"I feel I have a personal stake in this, too. I'd like my own children to enjoy the clean environment that I knew when I was young," he said.

Sonny Valencia, senior executive from CCBPI's corporate communication, said the project was a convergence of ideas between the company and the Rotary Club of Meycauayan Northeast.

"The club came to us with a proposal that coincided with what we wanted to do. This project is also a result of the good partnership fostered by the proponents over the last few months," he said.

CCBPI, the Rotary Club and De la Cruz started an annual mango tree-planting project in Meycauayan last year with the help of the Department of Agriculture to start a multisector environmental campaign.

"The primary objective of this collection and segregation project is to create awareness of the need to preserve the environment among Bulakeños," Marcy Ballesteros, Rotary Club of Meycauayan Northeast president, said.

"We would like to use the project as a tool to change people's attitude and behavior, to let them realize that we can do something to protect the environment," he said.

A "DEVOTED, dutiful" wife, Dr. Loi Ejercito with son Jinggoy arrives at the Club Filipino for her launching as a senatorial candidate. EDWIN BACASMAS

Go ahead . . .

(From page A1)

some benefits," the clinic reported on the Web.

The Mayo Clinic said that the ingredients in chocolate, when taken in moderate amounts, could boost the immune system, and prevent heart disease and even the plaque formation that leads to tooth decay.

"Harvard researchers found that of 7,800 men who participated in a study, those who ate candy one to three times a month lived longer than those who almost never ate candy," the report read.

The report said that the Harvard researchers failed to ask what type of candy the subjects ate but speculated that they must have eaten chocolate.

"If that's true, the explanation for the results of the study may be that a 1.5-ounce piece of chocolate contains the same amount of the heart-protecting antioxidant, phenol, as a glass of red wine," the report said.

It said that while there was still no study made on the phenol in chocolate, consumption of red wine had been shown to lower the risk of coronary heart disease. In the Harvard study, eating candy was found to be not as beneficial.

"Even the fat in chocolate isn't as bad as it could be. More than half the saturated fat is stearic acid, which doesn't raise the level of cholesterol. Also, the fat in chocolate contains alpha-tocopherol, a form of Vitamin E," the Mayo Clinic reported.

"Contrary to popular belief, small amounts of chocolate do not cause migraines or acne," the report said.

Chocolate is a good aphrodisiac—it stimulates without causing loss of sleep.

"Chocolate contains small amounts of caffeine and larger amounts of theobromine, a similar substance. Both are xanthines that, quickly absorbed by the body, mildly stimulates the nervous system, speed up your heart a little bit and increase alertness," the report said.

"Yet, there's not enough stimulant to cause loss of sleep," it said.

The Journal of the American Dietetic Association has acknowledged that craving for chocolate is real and not imagined.

"Researchers in the journal believe that chocolate's appeal is a combination of its nutrients and chemical composition as well as its fat and sugar," said the report.

"It does not hurt that chocolate melts just as or below body temperature, creating that delicious ooze when you place it on your tongue," said the Mayo Clinic article.

DOJ: It's jail for Estrada after filing of cases in court

(From page A1)

men he described as "former officials of the government" had joined the list of former Estrada allies who were willing to testify against him. However, he would not identify them.

So far, at least three Estrada associates have agreed to testify for the prosecution.

On Monday, Estrada failed to meet a deadline to file a counter-affidavit with the ombudsman on why he should not be charged.

Perez said Estrada's failure to meet the deadline would speed up the cases against the ousted leader.

Desierto said his office could now initiate criminal proceedings against Estrada after he waived his right to answer the charges against him.

Estrada faces charges of plunder, graft, malversation of public funds, bribery and perjury in connection with the "Juetengate" scandal, tobacco tax kickbacks, and ill-gotten wealth.

Plunder is a non-bailable offense punishable by death.

Desierto, however, did not say which of the cases a five-man special investigating panel would file in the Sandiganbayan first.

"If the special panel finishes studying the evidence on Friday, then the cases may be filed next week," he said.

Andrew Ammuyutan, chief legal counsel of the Office of the Ombudsman, said Estrada would be arrested should the Sandiganbayan decide not to hold further preliminary hearings.

Special panel

The special panel headed by Overall Deputy Ombudsman Margarito P. Gervacio Jr. yesterday rejected Estrada's motion for reconsideration seeking a stop to its investigation of the complaints by private prosecutors and nongovernment organizations.

Gervacio said Estrada did not raise new issues in his motion for reconsideration and had failed to secure a temporary restraining order from the Supreme Court.

The former President, represented by the Agabin, Berzola, Hermoso, Layaoen and De Castro law firm, asked the special panel to defer its investigation until after the Supreme Court had resolved the issue of the Ombudsman's jurisdiction to investigate Estrada.

"Due respect for the Supreme Court as well as practical and ethical consideration should prompt (the Ombudsman) to wait for the final determination of the petition . . . Otherwise it would preempt the resolution of the issues pending before it," the lawyers argued.

They argued that Estrada still enjoyed immunity from suit as he had only gone on leave as the President.

Ammuyutan said Estrada probably did not file a response to the charges since that would be "tacit recognition of the authority of the Ombudsman and the fact that he is no longer immune from suit."

Supreme Court

Whatever, the Supreme Court is expected to issue a ruling on the issue soon.

The high court yesterday ordered the consolidation of Estrada's two motions that similarly questioned the legality of Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's assumption of the presidency.

One of the motions sought to stop the Ombudsman's investigations, and the other asked the high court to declare Ms Macapagal only as "acting President."

The high court directed Ms Macapagal to file her comment on the second petition by 8 a.m. tomorrow.

The Department of Justice and the Office of the Solicitor General filed Monday afternoon a joint comment on Estrada's petition for a temporary restraining order.

In their 28-page joint comment, Justice Secretary Perez and Solicitor General Ricardo P. Galvez argued that Estrada could no longer reassume the Presidency.

"(To do so would be like) putting the toothpaste back into the tube," they said.

They said that Estrada had intended to relinquish his office when he categorically stated in a press statement that "Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo took her oath as President of the Republic of the Philippines at twelve o'clock noon of Jan. 20, 2001."

They likewise pointed out that the press statement made it clear that he was leaving Malacañang which he referred to as "the seat of the presidency."

According to them, Estrada also acknowledged relinquishing the presidency when he thanked the people "for the opportunities given to (him) . . . for service to our people" and his promise that he "will not shirk from any future challenges that may come ahead in the same service of our country." *With reports from Rocky Nazareno and AFP*

GMA rules out Erap exile: 'This is non-negotiable'

(From page A1)

she told a Palace news conference, her second since she took over as President on Jan. 20.

The justice department has imposed a travel ban on Estrada who faces six cases, including plunder, in the Office of the Ombudsman. *(See related story on Page A1).*

The justice department is planning to file three more cases against him.

Ms Macapagal disclosed that various quarters had been urging her to allow the ousted President to leave to hasten the healing of the nation's wounds caused by Estrada's impeachment trial.

"The representations were quite transparent. Senate President (Aquilino) Pimentel (Jr.) proposed it. The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines proposed it," she said.

Widespread opposition, however, prompted the Macapagal administration to scuttle the plan.

"In the end, we had to make a decision. And the decision is to require him to answer the charges here in the Philippines," she said.

Ms Macapagal said she was ready to face all the challenges facing the nation, including those "that divide us."

"Chief among them is the question of whether Mr. Estrada should be allowed to leave our shores so that he can seek medical treatment elsewhere," she said.

No leniency

Ms Macapagal ruled out any prospect of leniency for Estrada who was ousted in the so-called "Edsa People Power II."

Asked to clarify her earlier statement that she was ready to forgive Estrada if he repented, Ms Macapagal said: "No, I said forgiveness could only come after penance . . . only after repentance."

She said that talk about reconciliation should not be interpreted to mean the government would let Estrada get away with his alleged crimes.

Private prosecutors say Estrada pocketed millions in "jueteng" payoffs and tobacco tax kickbacks. According to them, the former President also has acquired ill-gotten wealth amounting to billions in secret bank accounts and prime real estate, including several mansions.

Ms Macapagal said that under Philippine laws, there could be no amnesty for Estrada "before conviction."

"In other words, even before we think of forgiveness, there must be justice . . . Before everything else, justice must reign supreme," she stressed.

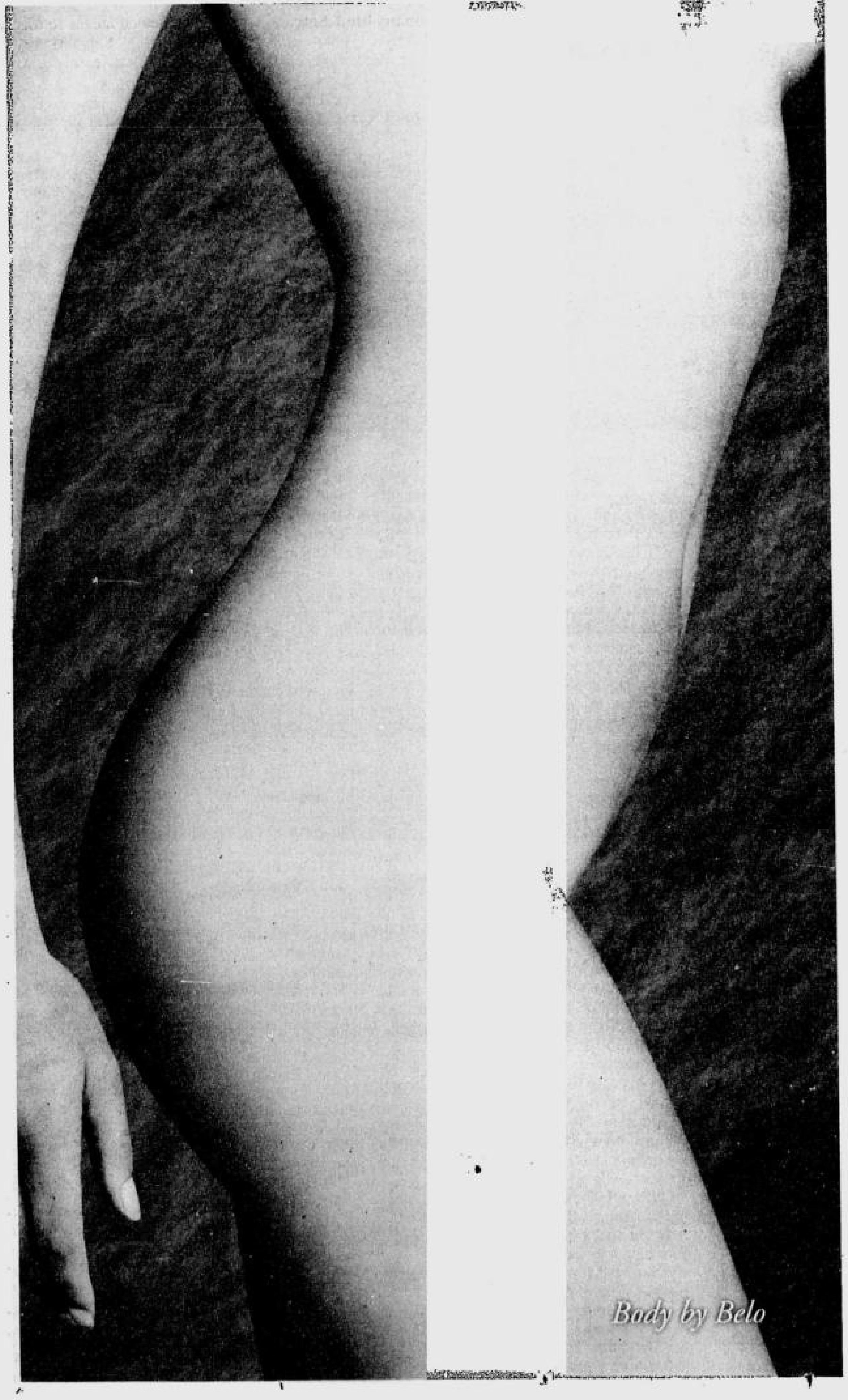
Asked, however, if Estrada would be granted amnesty upon conviction, Ms Macapagal said: "We don't want to think about that at this point."

"So any thought of forgiveness must be very far down the road. And (even then), it doesn't follow that there will be forgiveness," she said.

Ms Macapagal said everything would depend on how criminal proceedings against Estrada would go.

During the same news conference, she also took exception to Estrada's statement that the country had become a "banana Republic."

"No, it is not. It is a People Power Constitutional Republic," she said.



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Loi leads 'Puwersa ng Masa'

(From page A1)

utes before Monday's midnight deadline.

Officials of the Commission on Elections yesterday said that while the deadline for filing of candidacies had expired, Estrada could theoretically still run for a Senate seat if his wife withdrew her candidacy to allow him to replace her.

Analysts said running for the Senate would give Estrada an opportunity to mount a direct challenge to the authority of his successor, President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Election rules allow a party to substitute a registered candidate for one who withdraws.

"If Loi makes way, Erap can substitute for his wife," Comelec legal adviser Mike Juneta told Agence France Presse.

He said a registered candidate could give an excuse to be replaced by a party mate.

But the AFP quoted Senate President Aquilino Pimentel as saying that running for election would automatically "weaken" Estrada's argument that he was still the "legitimate" president.

"His posture that he has not resigned from the presidency will collapse," Pimentel said.

Angara et al.

With Ejercito on the slate are LDP president Edgardo Angara, Estrada's former executive secretary; Senators Juan Ponce Enrile; Gregorio Honasan and Miriam Defensor-Santiago; former national police chief Panfilo "Ping" Lacson; Jamby Madrigal, his former adviser on children's affairs; and Ricardo "Dong" Puno, his ex-press secretary.

The others are radio-TV personality Noli de Castro, who had been excluded from the administration ticket; ex-Defense Secretary Orlando Mercado, who defected to Ms Macapagal on Jan. 20 but returned to Estrada after resigning his post; business leader Alberto Fenix; and Ombra Tamano, the LDP's Muslim candidate.

Fenix withdrew his candidacy yesterday.

De Castro has announced that he would run as an independent. But Angara said that while De Castro was not joining the LDP as a member, he had agreed to run in the slate.

"He is a guest candidate. Once in a while, he might come with some of us," Puno said of his fellow ABS-CBN personality.

Asked why the party had only 12 candidates, Angara said: "We kept the 13th (slot) open because we will adopt Serge (Osmeña III)."

The 13th winning senator will serve only for three years, the remainder of the term of now Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr.

Senator Osmeña is a candidate of the administration's People Power Coalition (PPC). He is also an adopted candidate of the PDP-Laban.

Of the 12 listed, Santiago, De Castro, Mercado and Fenix were not present at the launching.

Angara dismissed the administration's prediction of a 13-0 victory at the polls, saying the opposition had never been routed in the country's electoral history.

He predicted an LDP win of 7-6.

'Our first lady'

Makati Rep. Agapito "Butz" Aquino introduced Ejercito as "our first lady."

"In the past weeks, I have been praying so hard for Divine Guidance in order to see the meaning in all the trials that I and my family have been facing," Ejercito, a psychiatrist, said in her speech.

She said that Estrada had been "besieged with a thousand and one cases and threatened with immediate incarceration," and that he was also at the center of an "international controversy regarding the constitutionality of the present government."

Ejercito did not refer to her husband by name, but described herself as a "devoted, dutiful wife and mother."

"You all know that I do not have any political inclination. I know nothing about politics," she said.

It pained her, she said, that she could not help Estrada out of what she called his "legal problems," referring to the cases of plunder, graft and corruption filed against him.

She said that after deep reflection, she concluded that Estrada's "programs and love for the poor must continue."

"By running for senator, I can help keep alive the noble ideas and objectives of *Erap para sa Mahirap*," she said.

Ejercito's experience as Estrada's long-suffering wife might come in handy during the campaign.

"I am aware of all the political criticisms and prosecutions that will be hurled against me. But this is a small price to pay for the continued caring for the poor and the forgotten in our society," she said.

Sought for comment, Pimentel said Ejercito would be a "good candidate" because of the "image of martyrdom" that she gained after standing by her husband despite his admission of maintaining a string of mistresses.

Pimentel also said Ejercito had not been touched directly by the corruption allegations against Estrada and his other relatives.

As first lady, Ejercito engaged in extensive charity work in the rural areas.

However, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez questioned whether Ejercito was "a willing candidate."

Perez said the cases against Estrada would proceed even if his wife were elected.

Hate campaign

Concerns that the administration would mount a hate campaign against them dominated the eight candidates' speeches.

"We hope that this campaign will be conducted not on the basis of hate. I hope that this country moves on because hatred and animosity in our electoral process since 1986 did not do us any good. The Philippines continues to be mired in poverty," Angara said.

Later he told reporters that the President should take the initiative to "stop running this country on a hate basis."

"Look at what has happened to us since 1986. Have we progressed economically and socially on the basis of that anti-Marcos feeling?" he said.

"I'm not saying we must forget our past. We must always consider it, but I'm saying that from now on, we should move on and judge the people not on the basis of association but on their individual merit."

In his speech, Enrile said it was his "prayer" that the elections would be based on issues and not personalities.

Aquino noted that the LDP slate had the "original heroes of Edsa I" in Enrile and Honasan.

The two men were key players in the 1986 revolt that toppled then strongman Ferdinand Marcos and installed Corazon Aquino as president. They were among the 11 senators who voted against the opening of documents containing vital evidence at Estrada's impeachment trial.

Honasan, who launched destructive coup attempts against the Aquino administration, said the PPC should not run on a "platform of hatred and revenge" against those who were not part of People Power II and were deemed Estrada allies.

'Threat'

Senate President Pro Tempore Blas Ople, the LDP's supposed brains, said the PPC's 13-0 prediction was a threat to manipulate election results.

"They will not let a single opposition candidate make it. It's a threat to wipe out the opposition, and who knows what dark plans are afoot?" he said.

According to Ople, the Macapagal administration is ruled by a "military junta" whose members are wearing masks, and it is former President Fidel Ramos who is pulling the strings.

Angara acknowledged their handicap.

"The minority always runs on an uphill basis, that's for sure. But you will never know the outcome until the elections are in full progress and full swing, and we are confident that we will run very strongly," he said.

Angara said the LDP did not want to compete with the PPC "because we are underfunded."

"But we will never be outfought," he said.

He also said that the "Erap stigma" could be present in Metro Manila but not in the provinces.

Lacson said he decided to retire from 30 years of public service when his police career "ended abruptly" on Jan. 20, the day Estrada was ousted. He said he feared for the future of the people because of the renewed kidnappings, bank robberies and other crimes.

The LDP is still searching for a name for the slate, which includes members of Estrada's Partido ng Masang Pilipino and the Nationalist People's Coalition.

While "Pwersa ng Masa" was printed on a huge streamer above the main table at the club, the LDP members reportedly do not want this to be the final name because of its association with Estrada. ***With an AFP report***

Priest questions Noli's 'pro-people' stance

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—The vice chair and spokesperson of Gomburza, a national association of militant members of the clergy, yesterday questioned the supposed "pro-people" posture of senatorial candidate Noli de Castro.

Fr. Raul Enriquez said De Castro, a radio-TV personality, "has a lot of answering to do as far as his role in the Estrada administration is concerned."

Enriquez recalled that last year, the staff of De Castro's TV program, "Magandang Gabi, Bayan," conducted an investigation of the aftermath of the controversial bust of 365 kilos of methamphetamine hydrochloride (*shabu*) in Barangay Bignay II in Sariaya, Quezon.

"Mr. De Castro's staff stayed in my village for almost two days, interviewing several people involved in the bust of the illegal drugs," Enriquez said, adding:

"But despite the controversy generated by the *shabu* bust and its being a sure scoop, why was that episode never aired in his program?

"Was it because his staff secured positive information that there was actually a shabu bust, and that it was the villagers who actually foiled the smuggling incident by arresting the Chinese drug traffickers themselves?

"Who was Mr. De Castro's principal that could have probably ordered him not to air the episode?"

Glenn Forbes, coordinator of the Philippine Green in Quezon, chided De Castro for allegedly pretending to be pro-environment.

"I would like to remind Mr. De Castro that his showing environmental concern in his television program will not automatically mean that he is now an avowed environmentalist. For it ain't so," Forbes said.

Forbes also said De Castro's program was featuring reports on the environment simply because these were the stories that were selling.

"But after showing it and after the heat of the issue had died down, is he able to follow through on what he started?" Forbes said.

"I doubt it, because we have experienced his I-don't-care-after-the-program attitude," Forbes said.

HK woman pays $6,154 for right to free giant fish

(From page A1)

Ng Pak-yan, owner of the Yan Kee wholesale seafood shop, paid HK$48,000 (US$6,154) on Saturday for the golden-finned grouper that was caught near Indonesia and bought there by a Hong Kong fisherman.

The fisherman brought the fish to Hong Kong, where Ng bought it and immediately set out to find a customer who didn't want to eat the fish—which he estimates at 100 years old.

"Whenever I see any gigantic and strange fish like this, I would search for a well-wisher," said the 39-year-old Ng. Ng has done it before, giving his profits to local charities.

Ng's latest huge fish had gray and black spots and weighed about 350 kilograms (778 pounds).

The fish was bought by a woman Ng would identify only by the surname Lee, then released near Hong Kong's Tung Lung Island.

Ng said a golden-scaled grouper was released last September after fetching HK$50,000 (US$6,410) and a giant black-colored reef fish was set free after a donor paid HK$52,000 (US$6,667).

According to the World Wide Fund for Nature in Hong Kong, the giant groupers are rare and threatened but not listed as endangered.

They can live a long time but are slow to become sexually mature.

Environmentalists complain that Hong Kong diners are the world's biggest consumers of live fish from coral reefs.

Many local Chinese insist on extremely fresh food and in the case of seafood that often means keeping it alive in tanks until right before it goes into the kitchen.

The rare groupers can be freely traded in Hong Kong because they are not endangered, said Susanna Ho, a spokesperson for the Agriculture Fisheries and Conservation Department.

Ho added that Hong Kong has cut its consumption of reef fish, largely because many people still have less money following the Asian economic crisis.

The annual import of reef fish dropped by 83 percent, from 193,510 kilograms in 1997 to 31,936 kilograms in 1999, she said. *AP*

Comelec tells bets . . .

(From page A1)

senatorial race.

The Comelec issued the regulations on the use of campaign materials pending the formulation of implementing rules and guidelines on the law lifting the political ad ban.

In an advisory, the poll body listed the prohibited forms of election campaign materials based on the Omnibus Election Code.

It shall be unlawful to print, publish, post or distribute any poster, pamphlet, circular, handbill or any printed matter urging voters to vote for or against any candidate unless they bear the names and addresses of the printer and payer.

Putting up, attaching, floating or displaying any billboard, tinplate poster, balloons and the like of whatever size, shape, form or kind, advertising for or against any candidate or political party, are also unlawful, according to the Comelec.

The poll body also prohibits the distribution of electoral campaign gadgets such as pens, lighters, fans, flashlights, athletic goods, wallets, shirts, hats, bandanas, matches and cigarettes.

But supporters accompanying a candidate shall be allowed to wear hats and T-shirts advertising the candidate.

The Comelec said posters, whether cloth, paper or cardboard, should be not more than 2 feet by 3 feet. Cloth streamers, on the other hand, should be limited to 3 ft by 8 ft.

Streamers can be used only during public meetings or rallies. These can be displayed a week before the date of the meeting or rally and shall be removed within 72 hours after the rally.

Militants open drive vs pro-Erap candidates

(From page A1)

Ramon Revilla, former Executive Secretary Edgardo Angara, and former Press Secretary Ricardo Puno.

Pictures of former national police chief Panfilo Lacson and former first ladies Imelda Marcos and Luisa "Loi" Ejercito were also among those crossed out with red paint.

Ejercito filed her candidacy as senator at the last minute Monday night. She had earlier said she would not run for any post. *(See related story on Page A1.)*

Her eldest son by the ousted President, San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada, is on his last term and is considering seeking the congressional seat in San Juan.

Jose Victor (JV) Ejercito, Estrada's son by ex-starlet Guia Gomez, seeks to succeed Jinggoy in San Juan, where the Estradas have ruled for almost three decades.

"The former first family, instead of messing with politics, should first face the loads of charges filed against Estrada at the Office of the Ombudsman," said the College Editors Guild of the Philippines (CEGP), which had earlier released a Voters Reject List.

On the other hand, the party list group Sanlakas described the "Magic 13" slate of the People Power Coalition as "*trapo* power."

It said the selection process of the administration's senatorial candidates was a "desecration" of the People Power II.

"What a wanton display of callous pretense by these impostors!" said Sanlakas president Wilson Fortaleza.

He said President Macapagal-Arroyo and the PPC slate had no moral right to use the term "people power" as it "should be reserved for the people and not for the *trapos*."

"It should be used to commemorate our people's continuing struggle for social reforms," he said.

Bayan Muna, another party list group, was less combative. But it urged the PPC senatorial candidates to "tell the people" where they stood on certain issues.

It said the PPC candidates should live up to the challenge posed by People Power II and the post-Estrada era.

'Shameless'

CEGP secretary general Ronalyn Olea said Ejercito's candidacy as well as JV's political plans would not revive Estrada's political career and were futile attempts to seize power to allow them to protect him from prosecution.

Olea said it was "a shameless move" for Estrada's kin to announce their candidacy after their disgraceful removal from Malacañang.

"They should have accepted by now that the people hate them so much," Olea said.

Akbayan said it would launch various activities aimed at raising the people's awareness and warning them against voting for people like the 11 senators who opposed the opening of the second envelope at Estrada's impeachment trial.

It singled out Santiago for her supposed arrogance.

"First of all, we think that sanity is a necessary attribute for any public official," Akbayan said in a statement distributed to passersby at Edsa. "Irrational, erratic and unreasonable characters, especially if they are arrogant, have no place in government."

It assailed Santiago for her ardent defense of Estrada at the impeachment trial even after she professed to be an anti-corruption advocate and "virulent Erap critic."

"That is one hell of a mood swing," Akbayan said.

In a TV appearance Monday night, the senator described the demonstrators who massed at Edsa and elsewhere as "insects" and "lower life forms."

Earlier, she asked the Supreme Court to award her P7 million in damages for the "mental anguish" and "wounded feelings" she suffered when Akbayan members held a rally in front of her house in Quezon City.

Selective

In Davao City, Rey Magno Teves, convenor of the anti-Estrada group Konsensya sa Katawhan (People's Conscience), said it would work to dissuade people from voting for perceived Estrada allies running for senator.

But he said it would not likely carry all the 13 candidates of the PPC.

Teves said he and his colleagues would campaign for Representatives Joker Arroyo and Wigberto Tañada, economist Solita Monsod and former Internal Revenue Commissioner Liwayway Vinzons-Chato, whom they had earlier endorsed for inclusion in the PPC lineup.

He said they were still unsure if they would campaign for the other PPC candidates.

Konsensya plans to hold a voter's education drive during the campaign to enlighten the public on the candidates' track record and stop pro-Estrada politicians from winning.

Alvin Luque, secretary general of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan in Davao City, said it would not campaign for the PPC's "Magic 13" but would support a few of its candidates.

He said the list of senatorial candidates whom Bayan would support had yet to be finalized.

Even local political parties allied with the local chapter of Lakas-NUCD, Ms Macapagal's party, are not carrying all 13 members of the PPC slate.

Leaders of the Alyansa sa Katawhan sa Dabaw, a coalition of the local chapters of Lakas, the Nationalist People's Coalition and the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, said they would go separate ways when it came to supporting senatorial candidates.

"National political parties cannot dictate the situation on the ground. Both the administration and opposition coalitions do not have the solid machinery in the provinces that will carry the full slate of the respective coalitions," said Rep. Manuel Garcia (NPC, 2nd district).

Lost

Sanlakas criticized the President for expressing confidence that it would be a total victory for the PPC slate in May.

It said the predicted victory would be "a total loss for the people."

Although it coalesced with other anti-Estrada forces in calling for Estrada's ouster, Sanlakas has maintained a battle cry of "resign all."

"Her landslide 13-0 formula is nothing but a '*trese hudas* (13 Judases)' a culmination of the treachery that started at Edsa II," Sanlakas said.

Bayan Muna said it first wanted the views of the PPC candidates on the 10-point agenda it had been pushing.

The agenda includes demands for wage increases for private and state workers, distribution of land to landless peasants, and adequate and accessible social services for the people; the fight against oil price increases; the resumption of peace talks; respect for human rights; and the scrapping of the government's all-out war policy in Mindanao.

Bayan Muna said it also wanted the PPC candidates to clearly state their positions on the prosecution and arrest of Estrada and his cronies.

It said it would fight for the recovery of the alleged ill-acquired wealth of Estrada, the Marcoses and their cronies, and push the Macapagal administration to appropriate recovered ill-gotten wealth and laundered money for use in projects or programs beneficial to the poor.

Satur Ocampo, Bayan Muna president and top party list nominee, said his group was advancing the politics of change.

He said the party was giving more weight to program, rather than personality or popularity, as basis for electing public servants.

"(People Power II) sent a clear political message—the people wanted justice, meaningful changes and genuine reforms," Ocampo said.

"Bayan Muna's motto is to serve the people. The party's long track record in fighting for the legitimate cause of our people is undeniable," he added. ***With a report from Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

SENATE BETS

List of candidates for senator for the May 14 elections—based on certificates of candidacy filed as of Feb. 12, 2001, midnight.

People Power Coalition
Herrera, Ernesto F.
Magsaysay, Ramon Jr. B
Chato, Liwayway V.
Drilon, Franklin M.
Flavier, Juan M.
Pangilinan, Francis N.
Pagdanganan, Roberto M.
Monsod, Solita C.
Arroyo, Joker P.
Tañada, Wigberto E.
Villar, Manuel Jr. B
Recto, Ralph G.
Osmeña, Sergio III D.

Puwersa ng Masa
Defensor Santiago, Miriam P. (PRP)
Angara, Edgardo J. (LDP)
Lacson, Panfilo M. (LDP)
Puno, Ricardo Jr. (LDP)
Ejercito Estrada, Luisa P. (LDP-PMP)
Mercado, Orlando S. (Ind.)
Tamano, Ombra A. (LDP)
Madrigal, Jamby. (LDP)
De Castro, Noli L.
Honasan, Gregorio B.
Enrile, Juan Ponce

Independents
Rasul, Santanina T. (Lakas-NUCD-UMDP)
Adaza, Homobono A. (NP-Mindanao Alliance)
Sabio, Camilo L.
Morato, Manuel L.
Yasay, Perfecto R.
Navarro, Rod B.
Magtira, Daniel R.
Serrano, Bernard G.
Andamo, Nelson B.
De Guzman, Clemente A.
Macariola, Castor A.
Velarde, Ruperto Jr. C.
Quibedo, Emilio Jr. E.
Lagata, Merlito O.
De Leon, Nicanor G.
Nadal, Jaime P.
Bragancia, Enrique P.
Dulalia, Elias B.
Almerante Alvin Alvincent G.
Perez, Reynaldo O.
Velasquez, Vic Jr.
Blaza, Melchor
Escosa, Cesar K.
Bacolod, Pio A.
Tavaco, Ernesto A.
Favella, Vicente F.
Palanca, Edmundo R..
Abitona, Orlando C.
Guillergan, Gherry P.
Diego, Vicente N.
Roberto, Carlos S.
Mercado, Norberto L.
Bumatay, Renato B.

KBL
Lozano, Oliver O.
Chavez, Melchor G.
Casil, Juan M.
Nueva, Norma C.
Arribas, Juanito C.

Isang Bansa Isang Diwa
Gil, Eddie C.

Kampi-Lakas
Tangalin, Bonifacio U,

Rizalist Party
Padla, Eutiqiuo Z.

PGP
Po, Fernando Jr. A.

PDSP
Bajunaid, Moner M.

Gloria retires AFP chief of staff

(From page A1)

Villanueva is the preferred choice in the officer corps over Marine Lt. Gen. Edgardo Espinosa who was touted earlier as Reyes' successor, according to INQUIRER sources.

But Espinosa is allegedly the choice of Abat's allies. He had worked closely with the United Opposition in the campaign to oust Estrada but he has earned a reputation of being a controversial officer.

Espinosa was also the first top-ranking AFP officer who provided security for Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson after his exposé of Estrada's links to "jueteng."

Villanueva, for his part, is a low-key officer. Before he became the Army's commanding general, he was commander of the Southern Command at the height of the war against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the bandit group Abu Sayyaf.

Villanueva is expected to get the recommendation of Reyes, who as chief of staff ordered the relief of Espinosa as Southcom commander early last year.

The three-cornered fight for the AFP chief of staff position, the source said, could trigger a new round of anti-Macapagal movements within the military.

Not shortchanged

"No I don't feel shortchanged. As I have said, the chief of staff always serves at the pleasure of the President," Reyes said.

Reyes described the President's decision as "very good" because it would afford younger officers the opportunity to assume the position.

Reyes clarified that Abat's declaration "had very little to do" with Ms Macapagal's decision. "The President made her decision. We discussed it. It's for the good of everybody," he said.

But Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita said Ms Macapagal's move had something to do with the constitutionality of extending Reyes' term.

In explaining Ms Macapagal's move, Ermita said Reyes had voluntarily offered to retire.

"I've always been saying that the matter of whether he will retire or not depends on the person," Ermita said. "If General Reyes himself says (Madame President) I prefer to retire, then he retires."

He does not believe that Ms Macapagal's decision would make military forces loyal to Reyes restive.

"I don't think there is any security implication whatsoever in his decision to retire," Ermita said.

During the press briefing, Ms Macapagal said the government was already out of the woods as far as restiveness in the military was concerned.

"In fact the military has never been as united as it is now. They are proud of what they did at Edsa (People Power II) and they have a stake in the success of the government that was put up after Edsa," the President said.

Life after military

Ermita said that there was life after the military.

"When you reach that stage of the military, you are supposed to have developed a certain sense about what you think you must do," he said.

He recalled that he also retired at age 56 and went on to become a defense undersecretary and congressman.

CHARLIE SACEDA

LT. GEN. EDGARDO ESPINOSA: First AFP officer to rally to Chavit Singson's cause.

"Retirement from the service is not the end of the world," he said.

Asked whether the defense portfolio had been offered to Reyes, Ermita said, "Why not. . . . probably."

Reyes said he had no immediate plans for his retirement except that he would be looking back at the lifetime career he had as a professional soldier.

"I did my duty and I did it well," he said.

Reyes said he would be writing his own account of the last few days of the Estrada presidency. But he said, "My memoirs will not sell."

It was Reyes who allegedly gave assurance to Estrada of a five-day transition period for a smooth turnover of power from Estrada to Ms Macapagal.

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National Cooperative Sector

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Business Sector

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Professional Sector

PBA TODAY

Gin guns for 3rd win vs SLR

By Marc Anthony Reyes

PBA STANDINGS

	W	L
SMB	3	0
Red Bull	2	1
Purefoods	2	1
Ginebra	2	1
Shell	2	1
Alaska	1	2
Tanduay	1	2
Mobiline	1	2
Pop Cola	1	2
Sta. Lucia	0	3

GAMES TODAY (Philsports)
5:15 p.m.—Tanduay vs Shell
7:30 p.m.—Ginebra vs Sta. Lucia

BARANGAY Ginebra is hoping to extend its winning ways and beleaguered Sta. Lucia Realty just might help carry it out when they meet today in the PBA All-Filipino Cup at Philsports.

The Gin Kings are on a roll with two straight victories coming from teams like Alaska Milk and Tanduay Gold after losing their first game to idle league-leader San Miguel Beer.

And chances are, the Kings will have an easy time against the Realtors, who despite the infusion of young blood to their solid core, have yet to make things right after three games. Gametime is 7:30 p.m.

Ginebra coach Allan Caidic said he could not explain the new-found zing in their game but stressed that his players, especially the veterans like Vergel Meneses, Jun Limpot and Bal David, want to prove something.

"Let's just say that we got tired of losing," said Caidic, whose venture into coaching two years ago has been marked by failed campaigns.

Tanduay Gold tackles Shell Velocity in the first game at 5:15 p.m.

The Zoom Masters, fresh from inflicting Purefoods' first defeat in Lipa City last week, are looking for a third victory against the Rhummasters, who will continue to miss Eric Menk, despite the player's plea for the league to consider his playing status.

The PBA board, the only one that has the right to reverse its own ruling on Fil-American players, will meet on Feb. 26 to discuss Menk's fate.

Tanduay manager Chito Bugia said they are optimistic the board will change its mind even as they help facilitate Menk's papers pending in the Department of Justice.

Tanduay coach Derrick Pumaren said without 6-foot-6 Menk, the Rhummasters would be very lucky to make the quarterfinals despite new additions like Bong Hawkins and Noli Locsin.

So far, it's Jeffrey Cariaso who carries the load for Tanduay, which eked out its first win at the expense of winless Sta. Lucia (76-62) last week.

Literal files P5-M suit vs POC

By June Navarro

THE LEADERSHIP row in the Basketball Association of the Philippines is far from over.

This developed as the group of Quintellano "Tiny" Literal yesterday filed a case against the Philippine Olympic Committee before the Parañaque Regional Trial Court for favoring Freddie Jalasco in its decision on the BAP leadership dispute.

Included as respondents along with Jalasco were POC president Celso Dayrit, arbitration committee chair Claudio Altura of sailing, football's Rene Adad and rowing's Benjamin Tolentino as committee members.

Literal is asking for a total of P5 million as compensation for the damages the POC resolution had apparently spurred.

Bonifacio Alentajan, legal counsel for Literal's group, asked the court to stop Jalasco from enforcing the POC decision, which gives the recognized BAP chief the free hand to do as he pleases in conducting the elections.

In its decision last week, the POC directed Jalasco to submit all the details of the election including the guidelines, timetable and the forming of an electorate provided that the election blueprint remains within the confines of the BAP charter.

Dayrit declined to comment on the case but said the POC executive board, which ruled on the BAP dispute, decided objectively and had taken the arbitration's recommendation into full consideration.

"I'll just wait for the subpoena. We decided immediately for the sake of the athletes but if this problem drags on, where will we stop?" said Dayrit.

Jalasco noted that the case will have a negative effect on the image of the BAP and could stall the programs of the association.

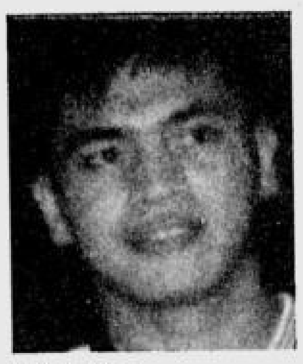
"They (Literal and company) have the right to file a lawsuit but it's much better if they just uphold the decision of the POC to prevent this problem from getting bigger," said Jalasco.

RECORD 4 FOR TIGER

Tiger Woods shows one of four trophies he got during the ninth annual ESPY Awards at the MGM Grand Arena in Las Vegas Monday night. Woods won male athlete of the year, pro golfer of the year, championship performance of the year and come-from-behind performance of the year as he capped his 2000 season by breaking the record of three awards he shared with Michael Jordan. Woods now has 11 career ESPY awards, surpassing Jordan's 10. AP

RP cagers facing tough task in ABC–Zamar

By June Navarro



ADDUCUL

PHILIPPINE men's basketball coach David Zamar yesterday expressed pessimism about the chances of his team to land on top of the heap when it competes in the Asian Basketball Confederation in Bangkok this July.

The ABC tourney, the most prestigious basketball competition in the region, will serve as the team's final tune-up before it defends the Southeast Asian Games crown in Kuala Lumpur in September.

"To be modest about it, a fourth place finish in the ABC is good enough considering the tough opposition in the region where China and Middle East countries reign supreme," said Zamar during yesterday's PSA Forum at the Holiday Inn Manila.

Prior to the ABC meet, the nationals must succeed in landing at least second in the Southeast Asian Basketball Association tournament to be held in the country in March to snare a slot in the ABC.

But Zamar said it should not be a tall order since all the tools needed in molding a championship-caliber national team is already intact.

"The only problem I see is the jelling of the players. But so far, the players are already getting the feel of playing as a team," said Zamar.

With MBA hotshots Rommel Adducul and John Ferriols around, Zamar said only a little more polishing will be needed as most of the players already had international exposure.

"Since majority of us came from the MBA, our weakpoint is how to break and operate the zone," said Adducul in Tagalog, the team's skipper and veteran of three SEA Games.

"But in time, we will become familiar with the system."

Aside from Adducul and Ferriols, the RP men's team, composed mostly of MBA stars, will also have Peter Martin, Reuben dela Rosa, Omanzie Rodriguez, Chito Victolero, Cris Calaguio, Homer Se, Stephen Padilla, Junel Mendiola, Eddie Laure and Egay Echavez to boost its lineup.

The men's team will have tuneup games in Cebu, Bacolod and Tangub, Misamis Occidental to raise funds for its SEAG stint. It will also visit Ozamis and Dipolog Cities and hold practice sessions.

Nepomuceno tops singles tilt

FIQ Bowler of the Millennium Paeng Nepomuceno showed true form in capturing the King of Pearl Singles Classic held at Pearl Plaza, last Sunday.

Paeng shot a total of 1406 on lines of 223, 223, 218, 234, 254 and 254 for an astonishing average of 234 to capture the 2nd leg of the classic tournament for the year 2001. It was Paeng's second victory after being sidelined for more than a year after undergoing wrist surgery.

Second place went to national team mainstay Carlo Mansilungan with a total of 1373, followed by Jackson Ong with 1367. Fourth was national youth pool member Trixie de Luna with a total of 1361, and fifth was FIQ Asian Zone All Events gold medallist Chester King with 1335.

The country's best bowlers participated in this classic which makes it pressure packed and high scoring.

Swiss GM beats Bong, moves up

FILIPINO GM Bong Villamayor blundered away a rook, suffered his first loss and relinquished the lead to his conqueror in the 12th Goodricke International Chess Open in Calcutta, India.

Villamayor was beaten by Swiss GM Joseph Gallagher, who became solo leader with 6 points after seven rounds of the Swiss system tournament.

Bunched with Villamayor at 5 points were Indian GM Dibyendu Barua and top seeded Russian GM Andrei Kharov.

IM Nelson Mariano, on the other hand, continued his recovery by besting Anup Deshmukh. It was the third straight win for Mariano, who boosted his total to 4 points.

Fide Master Idelfonso Datu's bid, however, got derailed when he bowed to Eshan Gaem Maghami.

IM Chito Garma whipped Das Arghyadip for 3.5 points with 4 rounds left in the tournament featuring 64 players from 15 countries. *Roy Luarca*

'Godfather' scheme long overdue

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

THE TIME is ripe—and far more valuable now—for the country's concerned leaders to implement the project directors scheme in sports. It is long overdue and the people are sick and tired of broken promises because what they urgently want is action not words.

Many months have passed since the Philippine Olympic Committee announced with much fanfare the revival of the godfather scheme in sports of Gintong Alay under Michael Keon in 1970s until the mid-1980s. Yet until now, nothing concrete—except the news to revive the plan—has been achieved ever since last August when the POC launched the scheme that will bankroll the preparations of national athletes for the 2001 Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur in September, the 2002 Asian Games in Pusan and, ultimately, the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

Because of this said development, officials of the various National Sports Associations should start asserting now their financial independence by raising their own funds instead of perennially pestering the cash-strapped Philippine Sports Commission for assistance.

Still we are blessed to have a few NSAs and sports organizations that are self-reliant and do not depend on the government for financial support.

The Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines is one of these sports associations that has tapped the private sector to get it going. Through the years, with Manny Lopez at the helm and guided by his father, former PSC chair and Manila Mayor Mel Lopez, the Abap has been tying up with Caltex Phils. to sponsor Filipino simonpures in world-class competitions, including the Olympic Games.

Stretching back to 1932 in Los Angeles, Cely Villanueva started the string of stirring Olympic successes by winning a bronze medal. Thirty-two years later—in 1964 in Tokyo—Cely's son, Anthony Villanueva, copped the silver, followed by another bronze won by Roel Velasco in 1992 in Barcelona and capped by the silver medal-victory of Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco in Atlanta in 1996.

On the other hand, billiards and bowling took enormous progress because of the generous support provided by businessmen Popit and Putch Puyat, the moving spirit behind Puyat Sports. Because of their help, billiards champion Efren "Bata" Reyes and Francisco "Django" Bustamante made waves in the international scene, doing the country proud with their fabulous exploits. And, believe it or not, they accomplished the feats without asking a single centavo from the government. Extraordinary bowler Paeng Nepomuceno, the only four-time winner of the prestigious World Cup, is also a beneficiary of the Puyat brothers, who are, truly, one in a million.

Junior tennis tourney back Feb. 17

THE PHILIPPINE Tennis Association will resume its monthly juniors tournaments this weekend with the staging of the Philta Juniors Tennis Classic 1 at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

The two-weekend tournament, to be held Feb. 17-18 and 23-25, will have singles competitions in the nine age brackets—boys' and girls' 18 years and under, 16 and under, 14 and under and 12 and under and unisex 10 years and under.

Registration is now going on at the Philta office with tels. 535-6434 and 523-6425. Registration fee is P200 per event.

Deadline for the submission of entries is at noon of Feb. 15.

Stallion picks for 2001

WHAT CAN I SAY

Bebo Quiros

As you can tell by now, using animals of proven pedigree is paramount for breeding programs to carry on. A dash of quality racetrack performance would help. Picking stallions that meet both criteria is difficult under Philippine conditions. There are not that many to choose from.

One such stallion is Yonder, Rolling Green Farms foundation sire, a Claiborne-bred Seattle Slew out of Far, a Forli half-sister to the great European champion race horse and sire, Caerleon. Yonder is a foal of 1987, one of the many successful race horses that trace to the immortal La Troienne. Yonder won US$654,080. Among his four wins were the Jersey Derby (G2) at Garden State, the Remsen Stakes (G2) at Aqueduct, and the World Appeal Stakes at Meadowlands. He is basically a middle distance performer winning from 7-10 furlongs.

As a Seattle Slew, he looks for more Bold Ruler, Nasrullah and Princequillo, especially Round Table, due to his line-breeding. Male Hail to Reason would also be useful. Do get in touch with Tito de Jesus. Make sure you send him the right mare. Yonder should make the grade. He continues to make it on the Australian sire list, having stood at historic Widden Stud in New South Wales from 1994-1998. On 26 Jan. 2001, a Yonder son, called Better Still, won the listed stakes Australia Day Cup in Melbourne.

Another sleeper for 2001 is Heza Gone West, the Gone West foundation stallion owned by Albert Yam and Manny Viray. Out of the Hero's Honor stakes-winning mare L'Extra Honor, Heza Gone West ran only as a 2-yr-old, placing 3rd in the Generous Stakes (G3) and the Pirate Cove Stakes, both at Santa Anita, winning a total of $97,630. L'Estra Honor is sex-balanced 3mx4f to Northern Dancer. One can add more Northern Dancer to the mix by bringing in The Minstrel which is A++ to Gone West, his sons Palace Music, Masterclass or Opening Verse, and his 3/4 brothers, Nijinsky II and Far North. As L'Extra Honor is tail female to Northern Dancer's greatest producing daughter, Fanfreluche, local breeders can utilize Khozaam mares for 4fx5m Fanfreluche. Regent Street mares not only add male-line Northern Dancer but allow for line breeding to Admiring, one of the best branches of La Troienne via Big Hurry. Bemedalled mares would be useful for "Heza" for sex-balanced line-breeding to Graustark.

We've written often enough about Real Top, our local Horse of the Year in 1999, that many friends have kidded me about having a personal stake in the horse as a stallion prospect. We don't. The closest we ever got to seeing Real Top head on home for the farm was when Carlo Mendez came by for pointers on how to and how much to syndicate the horse for stud. We haven't heard from him since. Neither have we heard from his owners, Eric Tagle and Raymund Puyat, as to their plans for their horse.

Assuming stud duty in 2001, Real Top's pedigree in shorthand is Heart of Arabia, out of Golden Doble by Twenty Four Karat. Heart of Arabia is a group-2 winning son of Habitat out of the Blushing Groom mare Ramiana from the family of 1965 Irish Sweeps Derby winner, Meadow Court. Golden Doble is by Mr. Prospector's 3/4 brother, Twenty Four Karat(by Exclusive Native) out of Martini, a Whiskey Road, (by Nijinsky II) full sister to Just A Dash, winner of the Melbourne and Adelaide Cups, both Group 1.

For those interested in line-breeding locally-bred mares, suitable mates carrying Mr. P and Nijinsky II would be Sal's Shuttle and Conquistarose. As Real Top carries male Nasrullah 5x5, Seattle Slew-line mares would provide sex-balance. Bold Joey mares would tap into the multi presences of family #16 in Real Top's 5th and 6th removes. Until the Real Top's start running, we'll never know what he will throw to. Unless he gets breeder support, these questions will never be answered.

Gintong lahi night

The Philtobo is gearing up for the Gintong Lahi Awards Night scheduled for 20th February 2001 at the Rizal Ballroom of the Peninsula Manila in Makati. Festivities should begin at around 7PM. Raymund Puyat guarantees a great evening of camaraderie and merry making. While the Philtobo board refuses to let on who their horse of the year would be, our vote goes to Wind Blown who won the Presidential Gold Cup. All one has to do is compare which horses he beat and which horses Silver Story beat. However that is only one man's opinion. The final stats will be the judge.

4 jockeys suspended

THE PHILIPPINE Racing Club Inc. (PRCI) board of racing stewards suspended four erring jockeys during the last racing week at Santa Ana Park.

The first to get penalized for 11 racing weeks IA Mancenido for his lackluster riding of Shining Jo. JM Manalo, atop Madam Victoria, was suspended for eight racing weeks after the board of racing stewards conducted an inquiry for first place where his mount figured in a collision incident against top favorite Union City Boy causing its rider, jockey AB Guce to stumble off the ground.

DG Vacal, rider of the another entry (Chrissy Girl) in the same race, was also unseated as a result of the incident. Madam Victoria was then disqualified and relegated to the last position.

Fast-rising apprentice jockey, LI Santos, rider of the winning horse Cougar was also suspended for two weeks due to foul riding.

PRCI racing officials also warned veteran horse trainer Pablito Guce for bringing in and using his cell phone while giving orders to jockey LB Guce who was scheduled to ride horse Be Quiet.

Riviera golfest

THE SMITHKLINE Beecham 7th Leg District 3210 Governor's Cup will be held on Thursday, Feb. 15, at the Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite. Tee-off time is from 7-9 a.m.

The tournamentwill be participated in by some 120 celebrity—players like Hajji Alejandro, Bert Nievera, Gary Lising, Subas Herrero, Dingdong Avanzado, Boy Arcilla, Al Quinn and many more guest and Rotarians from other districts.

Hosts are the Rotary Club of Silang Cavite, Rotary Club of Chinatown. Manila and Rotary Club of Pasay West.

Modified Blind Callaway system will be used in the event supported by Birch Tree, Ford Makati, SYM Mitsubishi, Boysen, Primal Enterprises and United Coconut Planters Bank. Hostilities will be telecast over Channel 11 on Feb. 25 at 6-7 p.m.

Rotary Club of Makati sweeps fishing tourney

ROTARY Club of Makati Central (RCMC) swept the 7th Annual Rotary 3830 fishing tournament and Fellowship last Sunday at the LWT 888 Fishing and Restaurant in Kawit, Cavite.

The event was sponsored by Lydia's Lechon, Carfel Vistamar and Thereemar Inc., host Rotary Club of Parañaque North (RCPN) president Lilia Pajarillo said.

Rodolfo del Rosario, of defending champion RCMC team 1, hooked 32 *bangus*, and with teammates Joel Marfel, Rodolfo Dalupan, Manuel Roux and Edwin Ugali, scored 16.65 kg on 68 *bangus* of the total 345 fishes (85.72 kg) caught by the 85 participants from 15 competing clubs. RCMC etched their champion team member's names on the Perpetual Trophy three years in a row.

RCMC team 3 of Efren Miranda, Jojo Gonzales, Edmund Borromeo, Dante Briones and Lito Acaba placed second (13.59 kg.), while RCMC team 2 of Israel Fernandez, Roderick Vera, Arturo, Mark and Deo Menor was third (11.75 kg.).

Joselito Figueroa from RC San Lorenzo won as Rotarian champion. Parent-child team champion were RCPN guests Violeta Angelo Alcoseba, Gia and Gracie Protacio are top Junior anglers.

Dewe Lu of LWT 888 Fishing and Restaurant emerged guest champion, while RCMC's Edwin and Ugali and Lito Acaba won the heaviest *bangus* and booby prize, respectively.

Other sponsors and donors of this RCPN fund-raiser were Royal Queen Travel and Tours, San Miguel Corp., CEA Auto Repair, Star Bike Corp., Executive Career and Services Inc., Alex Tackle Shop, AAD. Trophies were donated by Parañaque Mayor Joey Marquez and Vice Mayor Florencio M. Bernabe Jr.

Lydia de Vega's son dies

FORMER Asian sprints queen Lydia De Vega-Mercado's 4-year-old son was killed yesterday after he was run over by a passenger jeepney while playing in front of their house in Quezon City. Details in 2nd Front Page.

SPORTS

Al S. Mendoza, Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**, Assistant Editor

Shark spanks Welcoat, forces deciding Game 7

GAME SATURDAY
(Makati Coliseum)
3 p.m.—Shark Energy Drink vs Welcoat Paints

By Dennis Eroa

TITLE-HUNGRY Shark Energy Drink got what it wanted last night—a Game 7 and a huge slice of Welcoat's fearsome reputation.

Ranged against overwhelming odds, Shark displayed razor-sharp form all-game long in frustrating Welcoat with a 60-54 victory, forcing a winner-take-all match for the PBL Challenge Cup championship at the Makati Coliseum.

As the jampacked crowd rose in unison, high-leaping Chester Tolomia put the exclamation mark in the Power Boosters' gallant stand with a one-handed dunk which wrote finish to a see-sawing battle.

Sharpshooter Ren-Ren Ritualo breathed life into the Paintmasters' fading hope by gunning his third and final triple, 54-58, before he was stripped of the ball by Roger Yap which led to Tolomia's slam, 11 seconds remaining.

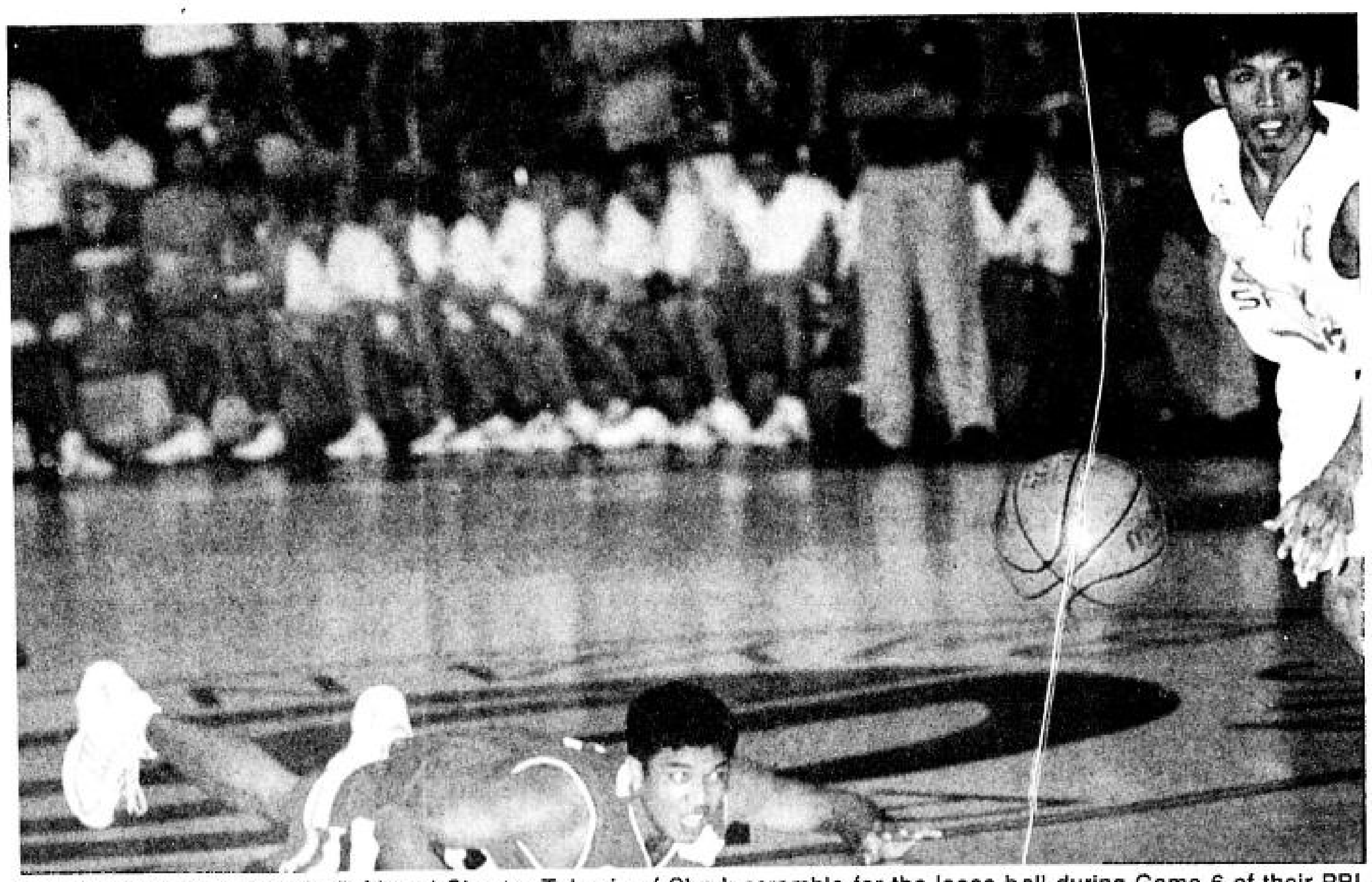
The best-of-seven title series is now tied at 3-3 with the decider slated on Saturday at 3 p.m. The Paintmasters won the first two games, lost the next two before barely surviving Shark in Game 5.

"I gave all the credit to the players. We have nothing to lose and they gave it all," said a jubilant Shark mentor Leo Austria. The mustachioed Austria brought the house down when he added: "They played with all their hearts out because it's Valentine's Day."

Austria, the coaching staff and officials replaced their familiar red shirts with Shark's blue but the result was the same— Shark smelled blood right from the opening buzzer.

Coach Junel Baculi calmly admitted defeat in the near-empty Welcoat dugout. "We actually got the raw end of the breaks in the homestretch. We're not going to blame anybody but ourselves for the loss. There is still a seventh game anyway."

Despite the big blow, Baculi, who is eyeing his fourth straight crown, said the momentum doesn't belong to Shark. "It's going to be an interesting Saturday. Just watch."



WELCOAT'S Anton Villoria (left) and Chester Tolomia of Shark scramble for the loose ball during Game 6 of their PBL Finals encounter. Shark prevailed, 60-54.

ROMY HOMILLADA

Proving that they have recovered fully following their controversial 76-75 setback in Game 5, the Power Boosters, bannered by Michael Robinson, Gilbert Malabanan and Roger Yap, put Welcoat's defense under siege as they led, 37-30, at the half.

Easily, the 6-foot Yap was Shark's man of the hour. Yap was on the prowl, tearing Welcoat's defense apart with his all-around game.

Thanks to Ritualo, Yancy de Ocampo and Ryan Pamintuan, the Paintmasters came closer at 42-45 but failed to gain headway due to the anemic shows of guards Eugene Tan, Celino Cruz and Jojo Manalo.

With the count at 57-49, Shark's attack took a setback when the pesky Robinson fouled out but Warren Ybañez ably substituted.

Cruz made it, 51-57, but the Paintmasters appeared lost as they were forced to a 25-second violation and Yap relieved the pressure with a split off Cruz's desperation foul, 58-51, 53 seconds left.

Yap recorded the series first triple double with 17 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists in 36 minutes of action. For the sixth straight game, Ritualo emerged as Welcoat's top scorer with 22 but lack of support from his teammates proved crucial.

The scores:

SHARK 60—Yap 17, Tolomia 11, Castro 10, Malabanan 10, Robinson 9, Ortega 3, Sotto 0, Rodriguez 0, Ybañez 0.

WELCOAT 54—Ritualo 22, Villoria 8, De Ocampo 6, Cruz 5, Canlas 4, Patrimonio 4, Pamintuan 4, Manalo 1, Tan 0.

Quarters: 20-16,37-30,45-42,60-54.

Big save

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

THE LEAGUE was saved.

Saved from what?

Saved from a possible collapse.

I am referring, of course, to the decision of Dioceldo Sy to convince Shark's Raul Panlilio to withdraw a plan to protest Game 5 of the ongoing PBL Challenge Cup best-of-seven title playoffs.

I didn't know Celdo's persuasive powers would also be effective on Raul, whose temper rivals that of a seething Mayon Volcano.

It was the belief of many kibitzers that had the protest contesting Welcoat's 76-75 victory in Game 5 been lodged, PBL Commissioner Chino Trinidad would have been put in a bind.

Would Chino have upheld Shark's protest and decide to declare Roger Yap's shot as an act of shooting, thereby earning free throws for Yap with .9 tick of a second?

Or would he have denied Shark's protest in order to, well, save the league from a possible web of complications?

One telling complication would be to see Welcoat disagreeing with Chino's decision and walking out of the series. That'd throw the PBL in complete disarray.

Oh, well, fellas, as we love to say: All's well that ends well.

To Celdo's credit, he was also able to convince Raul to give the promised game-bonus to the Power Boosters as though they had won Game 5. To me, that was the key.

Here's a glass to you, Celdo.

Now did you see Game 6 yesterday?

I thought the game was headed to a repeat of Game 5.

Like in Game 5, Shark was in control of the game again yesterday going into the homestretch. In Game 5, Shark collapsed in the dying seconds of the heart-pounding contest with tentative ball passing and a not-so-tough defense in the paint.

What killed Shark in Game 5 was that weak double-team against Yancy de Ocampo that led to a twinner, followed by that weak pass near the Shark paint that resulted to that game-winning fastbreak looper by Anton Villoria.

But in yesterday's Game 6, Shark finally tightened its grip of the lead up to the end to win running away, 60-54.

This time, Shark plugged a leak with the quickness of a skilled plumber.

The plumber was, well, Yap, Shark's undisputed moneyman.

After that big trey by Ren Ren Ritualo off Yap that cut Shark's lead at 58-54, 48 seconds left, Yap redeemed himself by slapping the ball away from Ritualo as the Welcoat dead shot positioned for another triple.

Yap, who lost his 2000 MVP crown to Ritualo this year, completed his last-second heroics by picking up the loose ball and next flicking a fastbreak pitch to Chester Tolomia, who dunked for the final 60-54 count.

All marbles are on the table in Game 7 set for Saturday.

Come early. The mother of all PBL thrillers is next.

Don't forget the popcorn, please?

All eyes on Iverson, 76ers as NBA action resumes

NEW YORK—If the last nine weeks of the regular season mimic the last nine minutes of the All-Star game, there's no guarantee that the Sixers will stay atop the East or the Shaquille O'Neil-Kobe Bryant feud will endure.

As everyone learned Sunday, things can change quickly in the NBA.

The season resumes Tuesday night with 13 games. All-Star MVP Allen Iverson and his banged-up Philadelphia 76ers travel to Milwaukee for a matchup of division leaders, the dysfunctional defending champion Los Angeles Lakers play at New Jersey, the Minnesota Timberwolves take an 11-game winning streak into Portland and the Chicago Bulls will be trying to avoid their 17th consecutive loss as they play the Atlanta Hawks.

The league can only hope it can build off the excitement generated in the All-Star game, in which the East came back from a 21-point deficit in the fourth quarter to stun the West 111-110.

"I thought the game was really a great game for the league, under the circumstances," said East coach Larry Brown of Philadelphia. "I've heard so much negative stuff about the direction of the league and all these young players not living up to the standards of the other players in the past, so it was a wonderful ending for us."

Much of that negativity has been directed at Philadelphia's star player, Allen Iverson, who scored 15 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter to lead the East to its improbable victory. *AP*

Odom Clippers leader

LOS ANGELES — At 21, Lamar Odom is wealthy, a responsible father and the respected leader and co-captain of an NBA team.

Not bad for a young man considered a bit of a flake when he left college early to enter the NBA draft in 1999.

Odom has led the way as the Los Angeles Clippers have taken on an air of respectability, a dramatic change for one of sport's longtime laughingstocks.

One of the league's youngest teams, they have a 16-34 record _ one win more than they had all last season.

The Clippers' top scorer (16.9) and rebounder (8.0) and second on the team with 4.8 assists a game, Odom clearly is their take-charge guy. *AP*

Grizzlies may transfer

WASHINGTON — The Vancouver Grizzlies, who will lose at least $40 million this year, were given permission by the NBA to explore moving to another city next season.

St. Louis, New Orleans, Las Vegas, and Nashville, Tennessee, have been mentioned as possible destinations for the struggling team.

Owner Michael Heisley, a Chicago businessman who paid $ 160 million to buy the Grizzlies in 1999, met with commissioner David Stern and deputy commissioner Russ Granik on Monday at a Washington hotel to discuss the team's future. *AP*

Edgar squash champ

EDGAR Balleber continues to hold a one-man show in the local squash world.

The country's No. 1 player stressed his dominance anew last Saturday by beating Arnel Begornia, 9-7, 8-10, 9-4, 9-1, in the finals of the first leg of the Milo/SRAP national circuit at the Makati Sports Club.

Balleber has dominated local competition for the past two years, winning every event staged by the Squash Rackets Association of the Philippines.

Darryll Williamson and Ronald Espinola shared the honors by taking the title in classes B and C, respectively.

Williamson subdued Jonathan Parone, 9-6, 0-9, 9-5, 1-9, 9-3, while Espinola toppled Rene Chanyungco, 9-7, 9-6, 9-2.

Garnett coming to Manila in July to play, hold clinic

HE'S one of the few who jumped to the NBA straight from high school and succeeded. Meet Kevin Garnett, an Olympian and many time All-Star.

Filipino cage fans will get the chance to see Garnett in person when he comes to Manila in July.

The visit of Garnett, main man of the Minnesota Timberwolves, is being arranged by AND 1, the fastest growing basketball footwear and apparel company in the world, which has signed him to a long-term endorsement contract.

"Kevin Garnett is among the biggest talents in the NBA. That, coupled with his tremedous passion for the game makes him a natural key endorser," said Jeff Roth, AND 1 director of sports marketing. "With Kevin on board the brand will continue to grow toward its goal of becoming the number one basketball brand in the world.

The 6-foot-11 Garnett, who is averaging 24 points and 11 rebounds per game, leads the NBA in double doubles (double figures in points and rebounds). Truly, he has blossomed into a certified star since being picked in the first round by The Timberwolves in 1995 out of Farragut High School in Chicago and making the NBA All-Rookie second team in his first season.

In Manila, the 24-year-old Garnett will be playing in exhibition games and will be conducting cage clinics for AND 1, which is locally distributed by Relzback Ventures Inc.

Other AND 1 endorsers are Latrell Sprewell of the New York Knicks and Larry Hughes of the Golden State Warriors. *Roy Luarca.*

GARNETT

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled By Lorenzo Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA – Sacramento Kings vs Utah Jazz at 9 a.m. (r- 8 p.m.) on ESPN

US NCAA – Miami Hurricanes vs Syracuse Orangemen at 1 p.m. and Wisconsin Badgers vs Illinois Fighting Illini tomorrow at 12:30 a.m. on ESPN

GOLF: AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, Day Three at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

Heineken Classic 2001 Highlights at 2 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

BOXING: Friday Night Fights at 11:30 a.m. (r) on ESPN

BILLIARDS: WPBA Classic Tour Finals at 4 p.m. (r) on ESPN

SWIMMING: World Cup (Paris) Highlights at 10 p.m. on Star Sports

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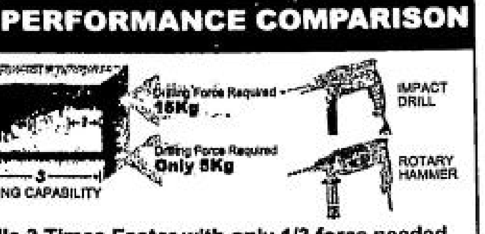

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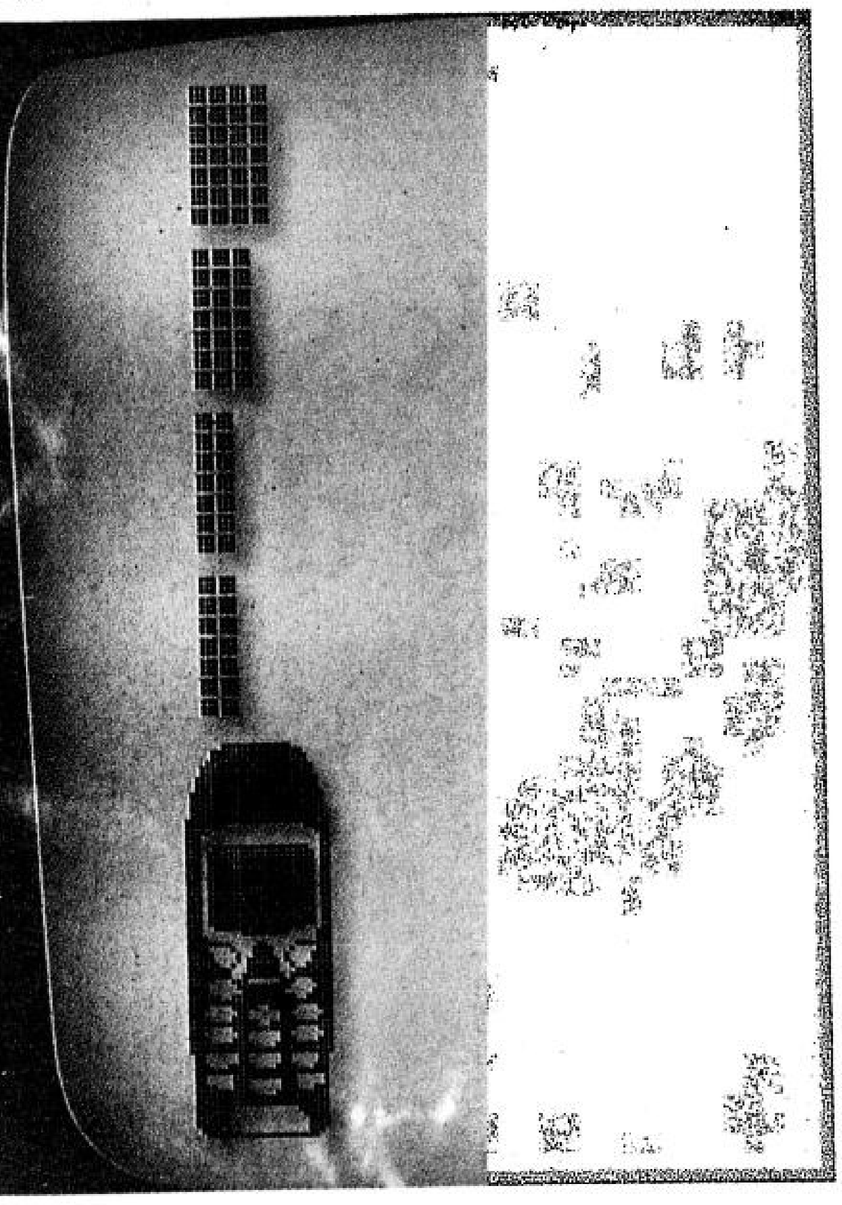

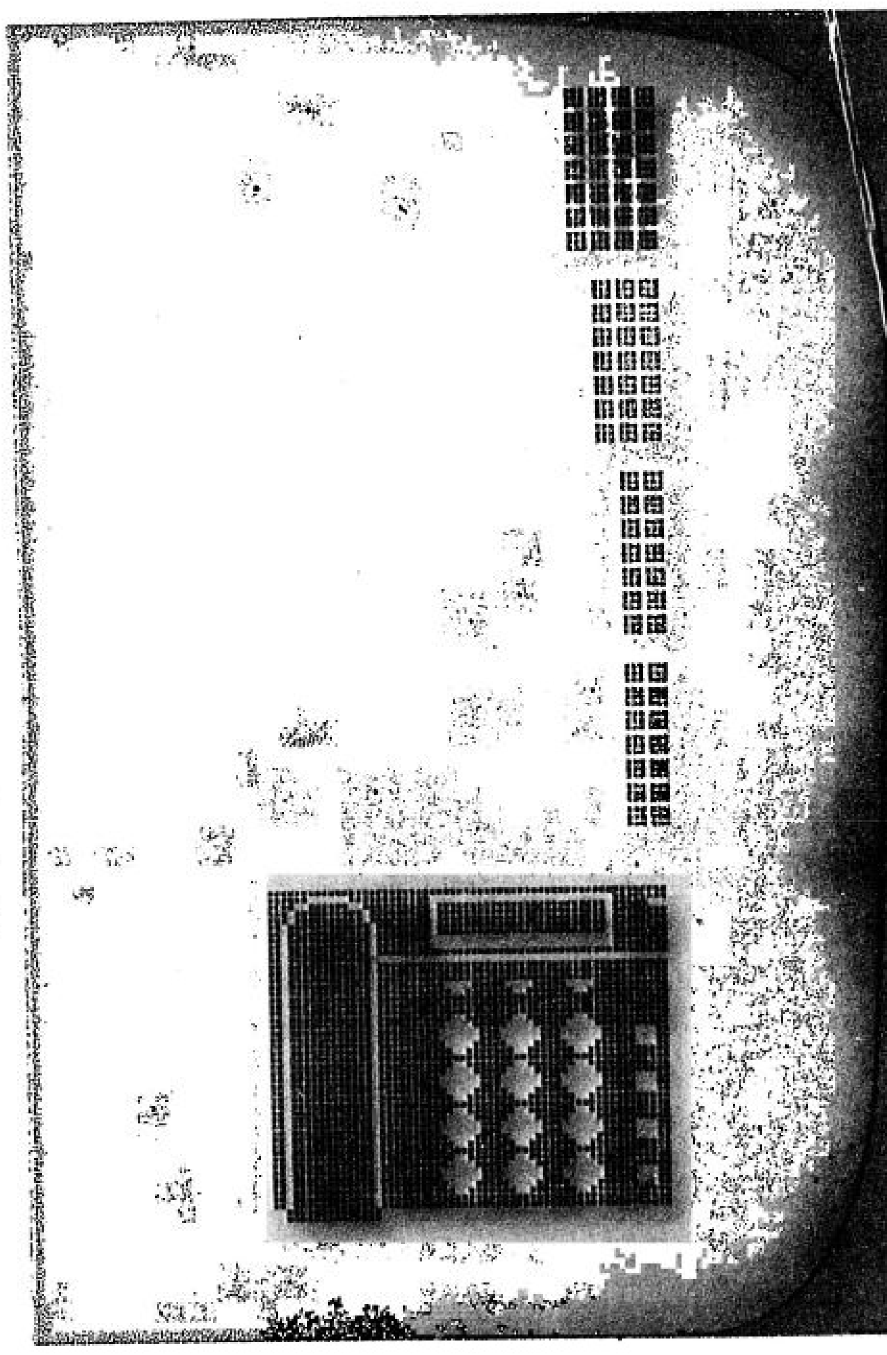

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METRO
LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

■ Makati village leaders ask: Where have you been, Edu? A26
■ Another corpse floats in Quiapo A26
■ Bare Eye: Cheated group has President Gloria for heroine A26
■ Malonzo blames Asistio for budget problem A26

Pasay's P8.7M Fire Code fees reported missing

By Alcuin Papa

THE PASAY City government cannot account for P8.7 million in Fire Code fees collected by the city treasurer's office from establishments from January 1999 to November 2000.

But City Treasurer Concepcion Daplas denied that she did not remit to the National Treasury P8,707,426.63 in Fire Code fees that her former cashier, Lourdes Rafols, had reported missing to the Office of the Ombudsman on Feb. 9.

In her complaint, Rafols called for a speedy investigation of the missing funds and the filing of charges of technical malversation against Daplas.

Rafols said records from the City Acountant's Office showed that the city collected P12,645,307.45 in Fire Code fees from January to December 1999, but the City Treasurer's Office remitted only P9,666,308.54.

The records also showed that P9,893,041.15 was collected from January to November 2000 but only P4,164,613.43 was remitted, according to Rafols.

She also asked for the immediate transfer of Daplas to another office so that the city treasurer would not be able to hide documents or influence employees who want to testify against her.

In a phone interview with INQUIRER, Daplas said she did not know what Rafols was talking about.

"As far as I am concerned, we are up to date with our remittances to the GSIS, the BIR, the Fire Code fees and all the national collections," said Daplas. "We owe nothing to the (National) Treasury."

She said she would face her accusers "before the proper body concerned."

Earlier, Rafols, a former casual employee of City Hall but with the rank of Cashier IV, filed charges against Daplas after the city treasurer made her accountable for P1 million worth of city funds.

Rafols said that last December, Daplas had told her to take the money from the office vault to be given to city councilors as Christmas gifts.

But in January, Daplas looked for the money from her, but she reminded her that she had given it to her the month before, Rafols said. She claimed Daplas denied receiving the money and told her that she would have to account for the missing funds and pay for it if she could not.

Rafols, who has gone on leave pending resolution of the case, also said Daplas and other employees were harassing her because of the charges she filed against the city treasurer.

But Daplas said Rafols and not she was responsible for the missing P1 million.

ROGER MARGALLO

EVANGELINA Lourdes Arroyo goes through the usual pre-departure check at Naia.

Cop arrested for running over 5 pedestrians

By Dave Veridiano

THE DRUNKEN policeman who fled after running over five pedestrians in Pasay City was arrested yesterday and charged with multiple frustrated homicide.

The policeman was identified as PO2 Manuel Taytayon, a resident of Tengco, Pasay City and member of the Philippine National Police civil security force in Camp Crame.

"Upon my instruction, Senior Supt. Magtanggol Gatdula, chief of the Security Agencies and Guards Supervision Division (SAGSD), placed Taytayon under arrest this morning," said Deputy Director General Leandro Mendoza, the acting chief of the PNP.

COP ARRESTED/ A26

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Gloria's daughter Luli shuns VIP treatment

By TJ Burgonio

SHE may be the President's daughter, but Evangelina Lourdes "Luli" Arroyo, 29, did not want any VIP treatment when she checked in yesterday at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) for her flight to the United States.

The only daughter of President Macapagal-Arroyo was travelling to the US to attend a series of conferences on computer programming and would be back on March 3.

She insisted on being treated like an ordinary person when she checked in quietly at the counter of Northwest Airlines and cleared with the Bureau of Immigration counter without assistance from airport personnel.

When members of airport staff offered assistance, Ms Arroyo said, "*Nakakahiya naman sa inyo* (I'm embarrassed)."

An amazed immigration official described the young woman as very simple. "She behaves like she's not the daughter of the President," the official said.

But when they insisted on helping her, Ms Arroyo allowed representatives of the airport's Public Affairs Office to carry her bag and to accompany her to the boarding gate of the Northwest Airlines.

GLORIA'S/ A26

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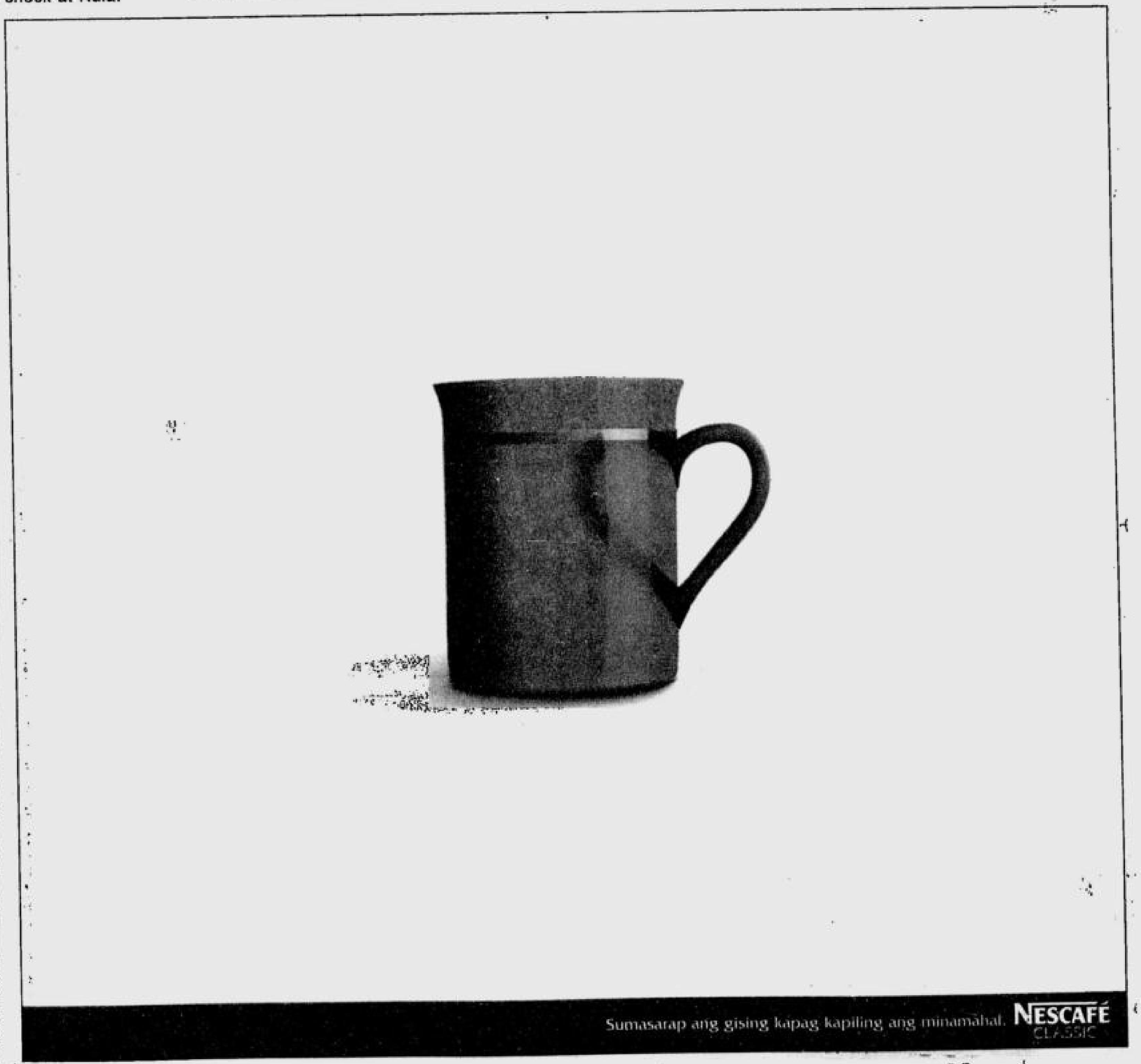
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Makati village leaders ask: Where have you been, Edu?

LEADERS of barangays in the former Fort Bonifacio military reservation yesterday said Makati Vice Mayor Edu Manzano is unaware of the real conditions in the barangays in the poorer side of the city.

They also resented Manzano's description of certain communities in Makati as squatter colonies lacking in basic facilities like roads and water in an interview published on Monday in the INQUIRER.

Pembo barangay chair Sulpicio Castillano said Manzano has never visited the area.

"I would have known if the Vice Mayor visited our barangay," he said. "But there's no news that he was here."

The actor will be running for mayor against former Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) chair Jejomar Binay, whose wife Dr. Elenita Binay is the current city mayor.

East Rembo barangay chair Romanito Verecio said Manzano has not visited his barangay of 22,000 residents since after the 1998 election.

"Maybe the Vice Mayor is not describing a community in Makati, but (an area) in Taguig or Manila where he campaigned in 1998, thinking these areas were part of Makati," Verecio said. "Until now, the Vice Mayor apparently does not know the city's boundaries and the conditions in his own city."

West Rembo chair Vicente Reina and Cembo chair Leonardo Magpantay made similar statements.

The barangay leaders, however, admitted there were small areas in their communities that do not have direct access to MWSS water pipes because they are located in upper portions of the former military camp. But they claimed the city and barangay governments have constructed deep well pumps in these areas.

Because of these pumps, they said, the residents have enough water for their needs.

The barangay officials also felt slighted with Manzano's description of their homes as squatter colonies. They said Makati has the smallest number of squatters in Metro Manila and the barangays discourage new illegal settlers.

They said the city government's relocation program has already transferred 1,434 squatter families out of the riverbank and has spent P41.34 million in livelihood assistance.

Residents of Fort Bonifacio, the officials said, have been living in the area for a long time and were awarded titles to their lands in 1987 by then Mayor Binay during the Aquino administration.

Iranian faces deportation for insulting Filipinas

By TJ Burgonio

AN IRANIAN who called Filipino women prostitutes is facing summary deportation.

Immigration authorities are going after Akbar Kasdani who, without provocation, was heard uttering unsavory statements against Filipino women on board a public utility vehicle in Quezon City last Friday.

Kasdani, 35, was brought to a police station in Quezon City and later turned over to the Bureau of Immigration (BI) main office in Manila for investigation upon the complaint of an angry Renato Tapiador of Novaliches in Quezon City.

Immigration officials said the Iranian would be immediately deported if proven that he had maligned Filipino women.

Tapiador, who was enraged by Kasdani's remarks, filed a complaint against the Iranian with the BI and sought for the immediate deportation of Kasdani.

Tapiador said that with his insulting comments against Filipino women, Kasdani violated the country's immigration laws and abused his privilege of residency in the country.

Tapiador recounted that he and Kasdani were on board a Tamaraw FX bound for Novaliches on the night of Feb. 9 when he heard the Iranian say without any provocation or argument that "Filipino women are prostitutes and whores."

Tapiador said that when he asked Kasdani why he said this, the Iranian answered: "I'm sending Filipino women to Japan."

Slighted by the remark, Tapiador hit Kasdani and a commotion ensued. Tapiador then asked the driver of the vehicle to bring the Iranian to the nearest police station in Novaliches.

But police claimed they had no jurisdiction over the case. They volunteered to turn over Kasdani to the BI.

Cheated group has President Gloria for heroine

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

WHAT goes best with a Coke? A hamburger, of course.

The cola drink must be cold, fresh. The sandwich succulent, spiced.

However, to poor kids who cannot always afford a bottle of soft drink or a whole hamburger sandwich, nothing goes better with a Coke than another free bottle of Coke.

Yes, there was a time, long time ago, when you could get another Coke if you found the winning red sign"Free Coke" under the soft drink cap.

If we had the fortune of picking the winning crown, we would not always collect the prize from the *sari-sari* store. Instead, we would keep the marked cap and present this, with a lot of pride, to envious playmates. We would go around, keep the treasure in our pocket, happy and confident that we were armed with an impending picnic.

These were among the memorable magic that makes us look back with fondness to those bygone summers.

After finally collecting the reward, then helping ourselves to its sweet, sizzling contents, we would snooze on the haystack or under the great tamarind tree. We were just too full, brrrp!, to run around.

* * *

Now, enough of that.

This one is about another cola drink. Pepsi-Cola.

I don't remember Pepsi, forever a pretender to the Coca-Cola kingship, ever offering a promotion like that free soft drink bottle.

But some time ago, there came this Pepsi promotion which definitely sent Coke salesmen into panic.

Pepsi held a lottery among customers nationwide who used soft drink caps as tickets. Each Pepsi crown had a three-digit number under it.

The promo got to be known as the Pepsi Number Fever campaign. If the numbers in the caps you kept corresponded with the drawn combination, bingo!, you hit the jackpot.

Well, to make a long story short, the winning combination —349— was drawn and declared over ABS-CBN's TV Patrol in May 1992.

The announcement was welcomed with great jubilation. Not a few poor people both in the cities and sleepy barrios ran out and danced in the streets.

* * *

But, in a tragic twist, the celebration deteriorated into a protest which next threatened to be a mini revolt.

Reason: there were a total of 808,038 local capholders with that magic 349 combination under their treasured Pepsi crowns.

And Pepsi, in a damned move, refused to reward the rightful holders of the winning caps.

The number of winning capholders, over 800,000, was provided by freelance journalist Vic del Fierro Jr., who identifies himself as a consumer fighter and activist.

This Pepsi Cola 349 jackpot story is actually old news which had gone stale with countless retelling and rewriting.

Del Fierro, at the forefront of the crusade, announced he was seeking a P20 billion claim from the giant PepsiCo in New York.

The guy, naturally, drew sneers. He became a laughingstock in gatherings and parties.

Del Fierro was predictably branded a Pinoy Quijote, a David going up against a global Goliath, the $80B PepsiCo of the United States.

* * *

In 1995 in New York, Del Fierro said American Judge Eugene Nickerson favorably decided and ordered the US PepsiCo to submit to the jurisdiction of the Philippine courts.

This good news, Del Fierro claimed, was distorted through propaganda and misinformation committed by certain PR agencies here. What followed, he said, was a "large-scale news embargo on any news developments regarding the Pepsi Number Fever scandal."

Del Fierro refused to give up the fight. He filed a class suit in 1998 to implement the New York decision. He said PepsiCo lawyers, for a princely retainer's fee, have been raising all possible roadblocks to delay the start of the proceedings here.

"It's evident that everything is being done to frustrate and tire out the claimants, many of whom have already died and have bequeathed their claims to their children," the crusader said.

* * *

In his latest move, Del Fierro said he has formed Coalition 349 and added that his group is seeking the immediate intervention of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for an out-of-court settlement of their P20-billion claim.

Del Fierro insists that the rights of the claimants against Pepsi "was upheld by no less than President Arroyo in 1993 as Chairperson of the Committee on Trade." He adds that his group, Coalition 349, used the Macapagal Arroyo Senate Report No. 190 as basis for its $400-million class suit against PepsiCo in New York.

The case is now pending before the Las Piñas court.

Said Del Fierro: "Pepsi lawyers may be convinced of certain defeat of PepsiCo since the report of then senator Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is a judicial notice which clearly established the US giant company's liability to the Filipino people."

He said President Macapagal herself conducted a no-nonsense investigation of the Pepsi Number Fever scandal in 1992 despite pressures from various parties for her to suspend, if not stop, a Senate investigation of the claim.

The luckless Pepsi Number Fever claimants, in short, are again pinning their hopes on the new President.

They seemed quite sure that their heroine would deliver.

Let's drink a Coke on that!

Another corpse floats in Quiapo

ANOTHER headless corpse, this time of a man, greeted workers of a pumping station who were declogging an estero in Quiapo, Manila Monday afternoon.

Investigators said the man was probably a victim of summary execution. Police said bodies of "salvage" victims are usually dumped in the Estero de Quiapo and the adjoining Estero de San Miguel, which drains into the Pasig River.

SPO2 Danny Vidad of the Western Police District homicide section said workers of the pumping station maintained by the Department of Public Works and Highways on Elizondo Street in Quiapo found the corpse about 4 p.m.

The investigator said the dead man, who was wrapped in a red blanket, got stuck in the station's conveyor machine which was lifting garbage trapped in the *estero*.

The body of the victim, clad only in white cotton briefs, was already bloated and showed signs of decomposition.

The corpse was taken to the Sanctuary Funeral Homes for autopsy. *Jerome Aning*

Gloria's daughter Luli . . .

(From page A25)

"Ever since, I never wanted to be given special treatment," she said. "I want to be treated like an ordinary person."

The second child of the President was not immediately recognized when she arrived at passenger terminal 1 about 8 a.m.

She was accompanied to the airport by a female member of the Presidential Security Group, whom she later asked not to go with her inside the terminal.

Malonzo blames Asistio for budget problem

By Christian V. Esguerra

CALOOCAN Mayor Reynaldo Malonzo yesterday accused Macario "Boy" Asistio of incompetence for allegedly failing to collect about P500 million in reimbursements from the national government when he was the city's mayor.

Malonzo said the amount, which accumulated since the early 1980s, accounted for a huge portion of the local government budget and contributed to the city's current budget problem.

"It only shows the incompetence of Asistio," Malonzo said. "He didn't know there were collectibles. We didn't know them at first but we tried hard to find out."

The INQUIRER tried to get Asistio's side but he could not be reached.

Malonzo, who is eyeing a third straight term, has also urged the Macapagal administration to release the uncollected amount to help finance the city's projects this year.

Malonzo said that for years, the local government had been paying the salaries of 600 workers of the Metro Manila Development Authority and some 20 employees of the Caloocan Prosecutor's Office.

He said the justice department and the MMDA should have paid for their workers' salaries, not the local government.

The workers' salaries made up a large part of the P500 million the national government owed Caloocan, Malonzo added.

The Philippine National Railway also owed the city a substantial amount in unpaid real property taxes, he said.

Malonzo, who will run against Asistio's younger brother Luis, said he discovered the amount when he ordered city hall officials to investigate the salary funding of the employees of the prosecutor's office. The workers criticized him last year for not releasing their salaries on time.

Malonzo said Justice Secretary Hernani Perez has assured him that the government would study the request for immediate reimbursement.

"We can collect the amount next year since the P500 million can no longer be included in this year's budget," he said.

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

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N.B. With copy of Resolution No. 3373-B

GREETINGS:

Pursuant to **RESOLUTION NO. 3373-B** of the Commission (En Banc) promulgated on 08 February 2001, you are hereby required to file your verified petition on or before **February 15, 2001**. The petition will be heard on **February 16, 2001, at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.**

Manila, February 09, 2001.

FOR THE COMMISSION:

MAMASAPUNOD M. AGUAM
Executive Director

Ma. Josefina E. de la Cruz
MA. JOSEFINA E. DELA CRUZ
Clerk of the Commission

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

EN BANC

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING
RESOLUTION NO. 3373-A
RELATIVE TO THE DATES OF
HEARING.
x---x

NOTICE

1. **LABAN NG DEMOKRATIKONG PILIPINO**
c/o Cong. Hernando B. Perez
Secretary-General, LDP
Room 402 Equitable Bank Building
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue corner
Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

2. **LABAN NG MAKABAYANG MASANG PILIPINO (LAMMP)**
c/o Hon. Orlando S. Mercado
Secretary-General, LAMMP
Rm. 3-B, 3rd Floor, Osmeña Building
1991 A. Mabini Street
Ermita, Manila

3. **LAKAS NUCD-UMDP**
c/o Cong. Jose C. de Venecia, Jr.
Secretary-General
Ground Floor, PISO Building
853 A. Arnaiz Avenue, Makati City

4. **NATIONALIST PEOPLE'S COALITION**
c/o Mr. Frisco P. San Juan
8 Bougainvilla Street
New Manila, Quezon City

5. **PARTIDO NG MASANG PILIPINO**
c/o Antonio E. Dollete & Associates
Legal Counsel of PMP
Suites 301-304, Leyba Building
Dasmariñas corner David Streets
Binondo, Manila

6. **PEOPLE'S REFORM PARTY**
c/o Senator Miriam D. Santiago
3 West Fourth Street, West Triangle
Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

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'Agaw-cell phone Gang' takes P1M in QC

CELL phones are a hot commodity. But 200 pieces of 3210s by Nokia are even hotter.

At dawn yesterday, suspected members of a group that police call the Agaw-Cellphone gang stole about P1 million worth of cell phone units and phone cards from the CK Cellular Corp. at 35-D Quezon Ave. corner Cordjillera in Quezon City, said investigator PO1 Edwin dela Cruz.

Besides taking the cell phones, the robbers also took cell phone accessories from the store owned by businessman Manuel Kho, De la Cruz added.

Police said the robbers broke into the store between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m. yesterday while the shop was closed.

They said the thieves forcibly opened the store's steel accordion door, destroyed the lock of the glass door, and ransacked the store.

Employees discovered the break-in when they arrived for work, police said. *Philip C. Tubeza*

Another Tondo 'tanod' killed

By Jerome Aning

UNIDENTIFIED men shot dead a *tanod* outside a barangay hall in Tondo, Manila before dawn yesterday.

Carlito Pangilinan, 50, was the second Tondo *tanod* to die violently in as many days.

Pangilinan, a resident of Malaya Extension who also worked as a driver for a Filipino-Chinese family, was shot three times in the chest and head, police said.

Investigator PO3 Rodelio Lingcong of the Western Police District's homicide section said Pangilinan reported for duty at Barangay 146 hall on Malaya Street at about 1 a.m., after he drove his employer home on Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City.

Other watchmen on duty told police that Pangilinan left the barangay hall to buy cigarettes and were later startled to hear gunshots at about 2 a.m.

The watchmen went outside and found Pangilinan sprawled behind his jeep which was parked near the barangay hall, PO3 Lingcong said.

The victim's family and friends could not recall whether Pangilinan had offended or quarreled with anyone in the past few days.

Cop arrested . . .

(From page A25)

Mendoza said he ordered the filing of charges against Taytayon. The suspect would be turned over to the Pasay City police station, which has jurisdiction over the case, he said.

Several witnesses identified Taytayon after he rammed a waiting shed in Pasay City where at least five people, including two children, were seriously injured.

Taytayon, who was reportedly reeking with alcohol, was driving a private jeep when he lost control of the vehicle and rammed the waiting shed at about 10 p.m.

Mendoza said that what made the matter worse was that Taytayon did not even bother to bring his victims to the hospital.

Instead, the drunken policeman left the five injured commuters at a nearby Petron gasoline station in Malibay district, also in Pasay City, and then he disappeared.

Mendoza said Taytayon also violated a PNP directive prohibiting policemen from driving vehicles without license plates.

"This alone is already a violation of a specific directive, which is tantamount to grave misconduct," said an angry Mendoza.

Rare music fusion at PICC

ASIA'S Songbird Regine Velasquez and Queen of Soul Jaya share centerstage in their first ever back-to-back performance, much to the delight of their followers who have been waiting for this rare fusion of two first-rate divas.

"Independent Women" tonight at the PICC Plenary Hall, is not your typical pure romantic show. It is also a celebration of the different moods and emotions in life, love and relationships.

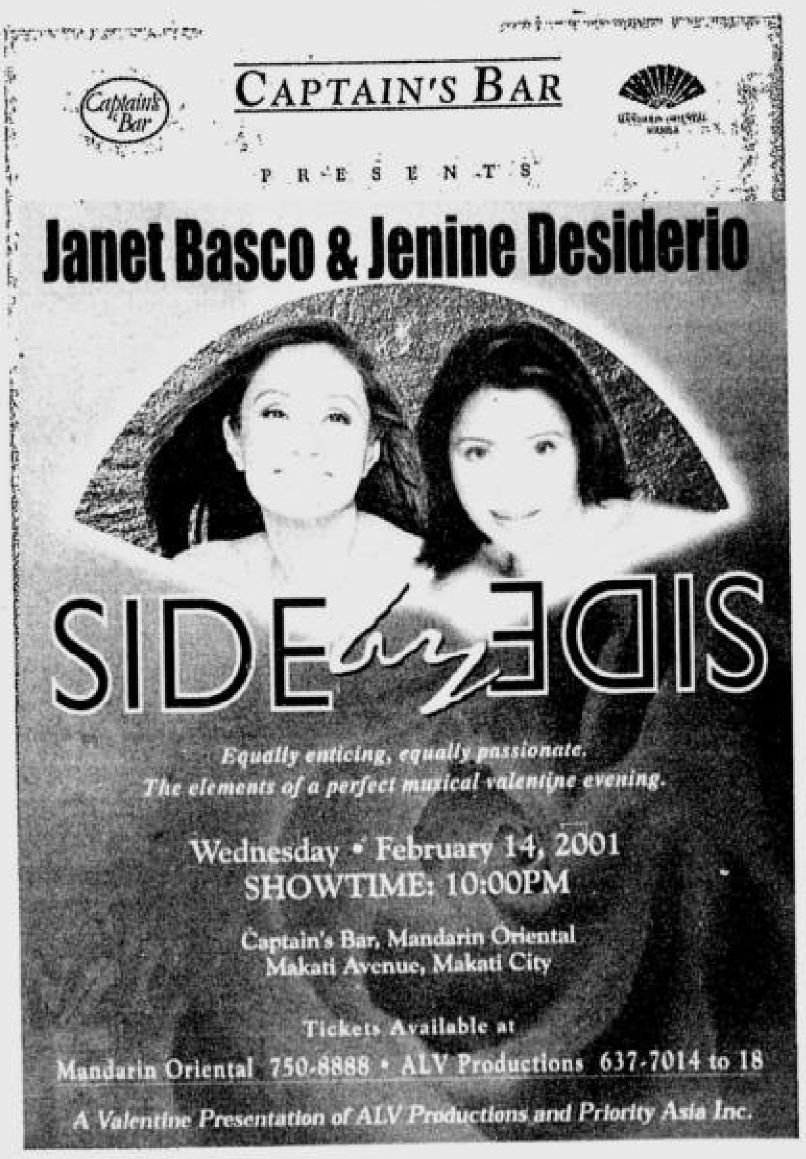
Regine and Jaya will sing their hits, original duets and other well-loved tunes, plus other surprise numbers that are sure to leave their audience in awe.

The concert, under the musical direction of Marc Lopez, will be staged by Maxi-Media's resident director, Rico Mortel. It also features The Opera on back-up vocals.

"Independent Women" is a production of Maxi-Media International. Radio station sponsors are 88.3 Citylite, 94.7 Mellow Touch, 96.3 WRock, 100.3 The Hive, 103.5 KLite, 105.1 Crossover and Joey @92.3 Rhythms.

Tickets are available at all National Bookstore, Tower Records, Robinsons Ticketworld outlets (891-5610) and at Maxi-Media office (813-8999).

FIRST-RATE DIVAS. Jaya and Regine Velasquez.



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JESSA'S HITS IN ONE CD

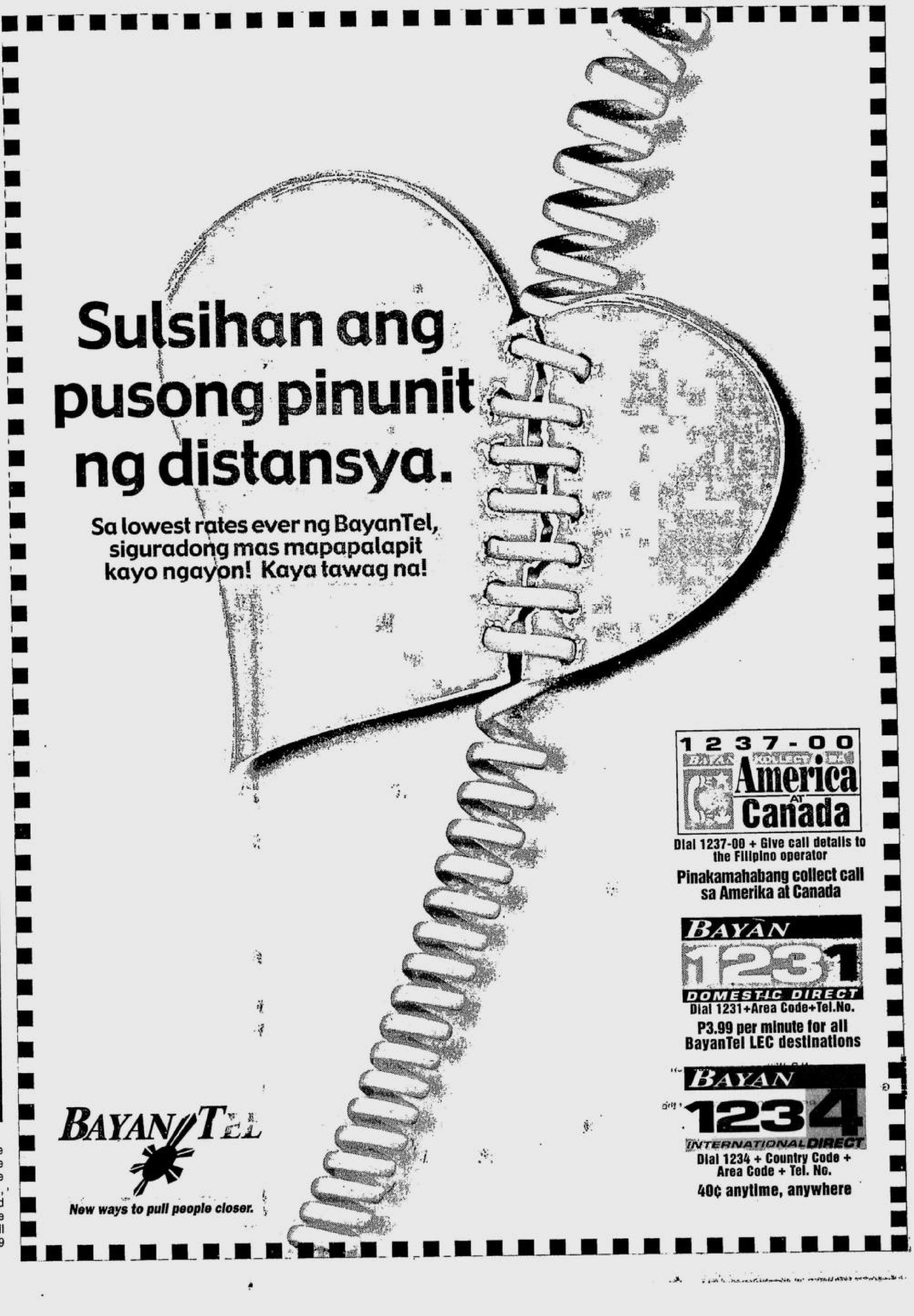
OctoArts-EMI releases "The Best of Jessa Zaragoza," a compilation of hit songs from its former contract star. The 16-track outing contains the chart-topping singles that have catapulted Jessa to hitmaker status. These include "Bakit Pa," "Nang Makapiling Ka," "'Di Ba't Ikaw," "Siya Ba ang Dahilan," "Baliw na Puso," "Mapansin Mo Sana" and "Paano Kaya," among others. The songs are compiled by recording wiz Bob Guzman. "The Best of Jessa Zaragoza" is now available in CDs and cassettes at leading record bars.

AT MONK'S DREAM

Jazz chanteuse Lynn Sherman, best known as the fiery lead vocalist of Ugoy-Ugoy Band, stars in a special Valentine presentation at Monk's Dream on Feb. 14. Lynn will treat audiences to her softer side with mellow favorites and jazzed up pop hits, backed by a three-piece ensemble. For a special promo price of P1,500, couples will be entitled to a full dinner before the show, with roses for the ladies. Groups of four can avail of the promo price of P3,000, inclusive of a bottle of wine.

'LOVE LETTERS'

Bart Guingona and Pinky Amador star in the play, "Love Letters," Feb. 14, 8 p.m. at the Republic of Malate. Author A. Gurney says the play needs no theater, no lengthy rehearsal, no special set, no memorization of lines and no commitment from its two actors beyond the night of performance. For more details, call 303-3529 to 30. Republic of Malate is at 1769 A. Martini St., Malate, Manila.



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New ways to pull people closer.

Kiko Pangilinan basks in joys of fatherhood

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

LAWYER **Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan,** a first-time dad with his first-born Frankie, admits he has been losing weight lately.

"Dahil sa puyat," the husband of megastar **Sharon Cuneta** told the INQUIRER during his visit to the office last week.

One is immediately wont to think that Kiko, this early, has been tirelessly campaigning even late at night. As most everyone knows, he is running for senator in the May elections.

But Kiko explains he wakes up every time Frankie cries, even in the wee hours of the morning.

"I don't get to see her very often during the day because when it's time for me to leave the house, she's asleep," Kiko says. "And by the time I get home, she's also sleeping.

"So the minute I hear her cry at night, I wake up just to see her. Sometimes, I help **Sharon** change diapers, but more often, I simply like to look at my baby."

Kiko really seems unstoppable when talk centers on his baby. At ABS-CBN, where he hosts a daily radio show and a weekly TV program, "Barangay Dos" (with **Karen Davila**), Kiko goes around showing every one the pictures of Frankie.

"After four and a half years of being married and two miscarriages, one can only imagine the immense joy we felt when Frankie was born on Dec. 16, 2000, at 4:41 a.m. to be exact," Kiko says.

"Sharon, **KC** and I were extremely happy upon seeing her and hearing her cry out for the very first time. I probably cried even louder than Frankie."

The scene in the delivery room, where he and Sharon were in tears, and KC was jumping up and down after seeing her little sister's first moments as a newborn baby, will be forever etched in Kiko's memory.

"It was an outburst, an outpouring of emotions that was almost magical," Kiko says.

Even now when Frankie is turning two months old, Kiko hasn't stopped marveling at his baby. He remains in awe at the sight of his first-born.

"It is amazing gazing at little Frankie when she is in my arms, her tiny feet, tiny hands, tiny fingers and toes," Kiko says. "Yet she brings with her a joy so great and happiness that is immeasurable to us who had long awaited her arrival."

Having seen what his wife went through just to have Frankie, Kiko was even inspired to write her daughter on Christmas Day. He shares with us the letter for Baby Frankie.

MEGA-BABY up-close

"I pray, dear Frankie, that you grow up to be a fine young lady and that you acquire your mother's most admirable traits. Your mother is a beautiful and extraordinary person, strong-willed, generous. She loves with a passion.

"Her dedication and sincerity are traits to marvel about. But most of all, I pray that you acquire the purity of her heart. I also pray that when you grow up, you marry someone like me (ha, ha, ha).

"You have brought so much meaning to our lives, dear Frankie, and I commit my entire being to try my very best to place as much meaning in yours.

"KC is your big sister, Frankie. I pray that you will look up to her and see her as a role model. I can see that she, in turn, will try her very best to be the best 'Ate' to you, to take care of you and to love you with all her heart."

When Sharon had to undergo a Caesarian operation for her delivery, Kiko says both he and his wife were afraid of the possible outcome.

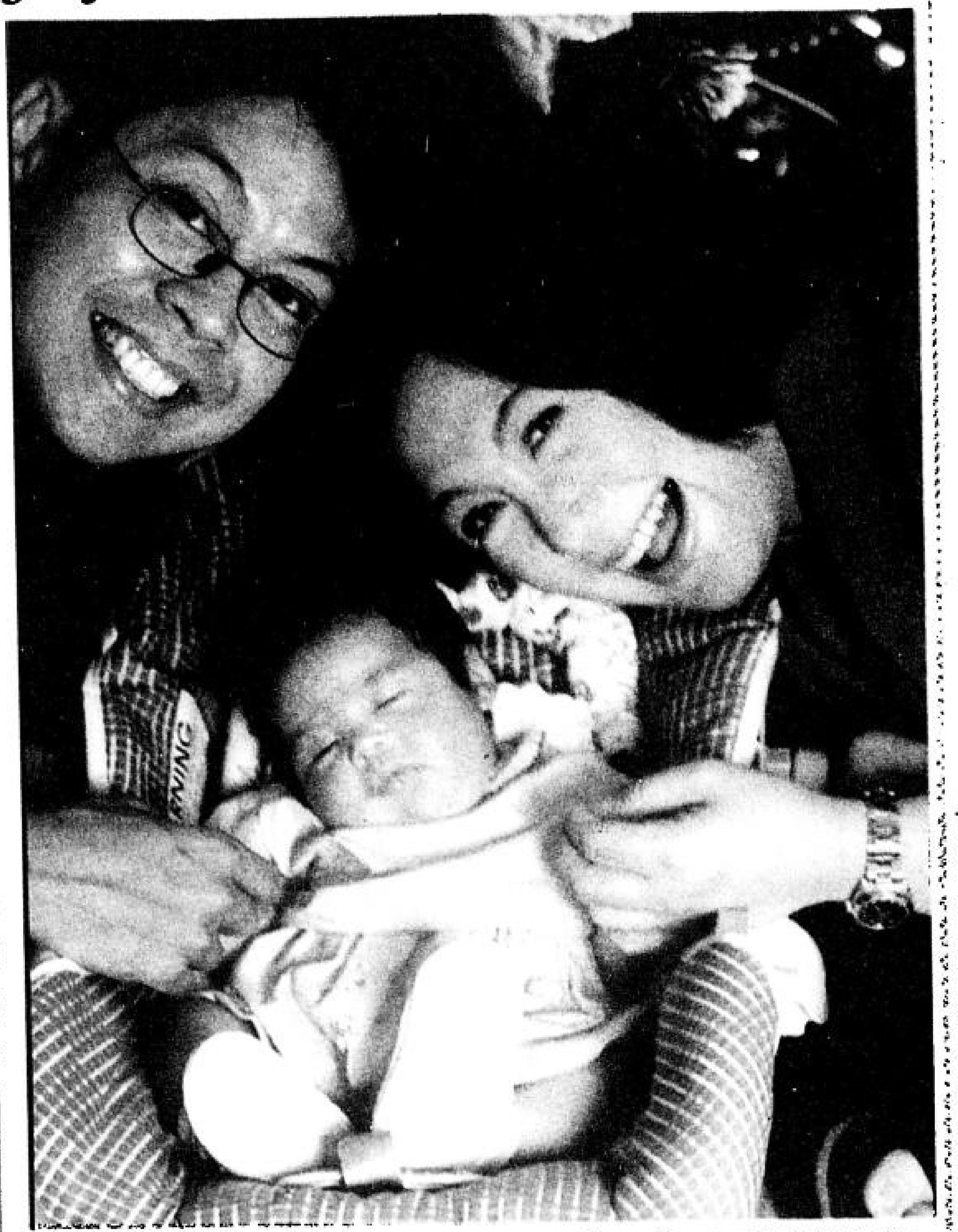
"Every husband should be made to sit by his wife during delivery. The experience is a realization of the extreme sacrifice that a woman has to make to bear a child. It is a reminder that husbands should love their wives even more and be more sensitive to them for the suffering they have to go through for the sake of the family."

Kiko knew at that time he had to be strong for his wife.

"I tried my best not to show her that I was also afraid," he says. "As the operation went underway, my fear remained. I was worried about possible complications. I was afraid that something might go wrong.

"The thought had actually entered my mind that the things she was saying at the time the operation was being performed could very well be her last had things gone wrong.

"I was so afraid of losing the single most important person in my life. But I thanked God later that none of that happened. It was a reminder of how much my wife really means to me."



LAWYER Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan and wife, megastar Sharon Cuneta with Baby Frankie.

Jeric's first for 2001

THE OPENING of "Live Show," the controversial movie on live sex performers directed by **Joey Reyes**, will not push through today since the movie still has to get the final classification from the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board.

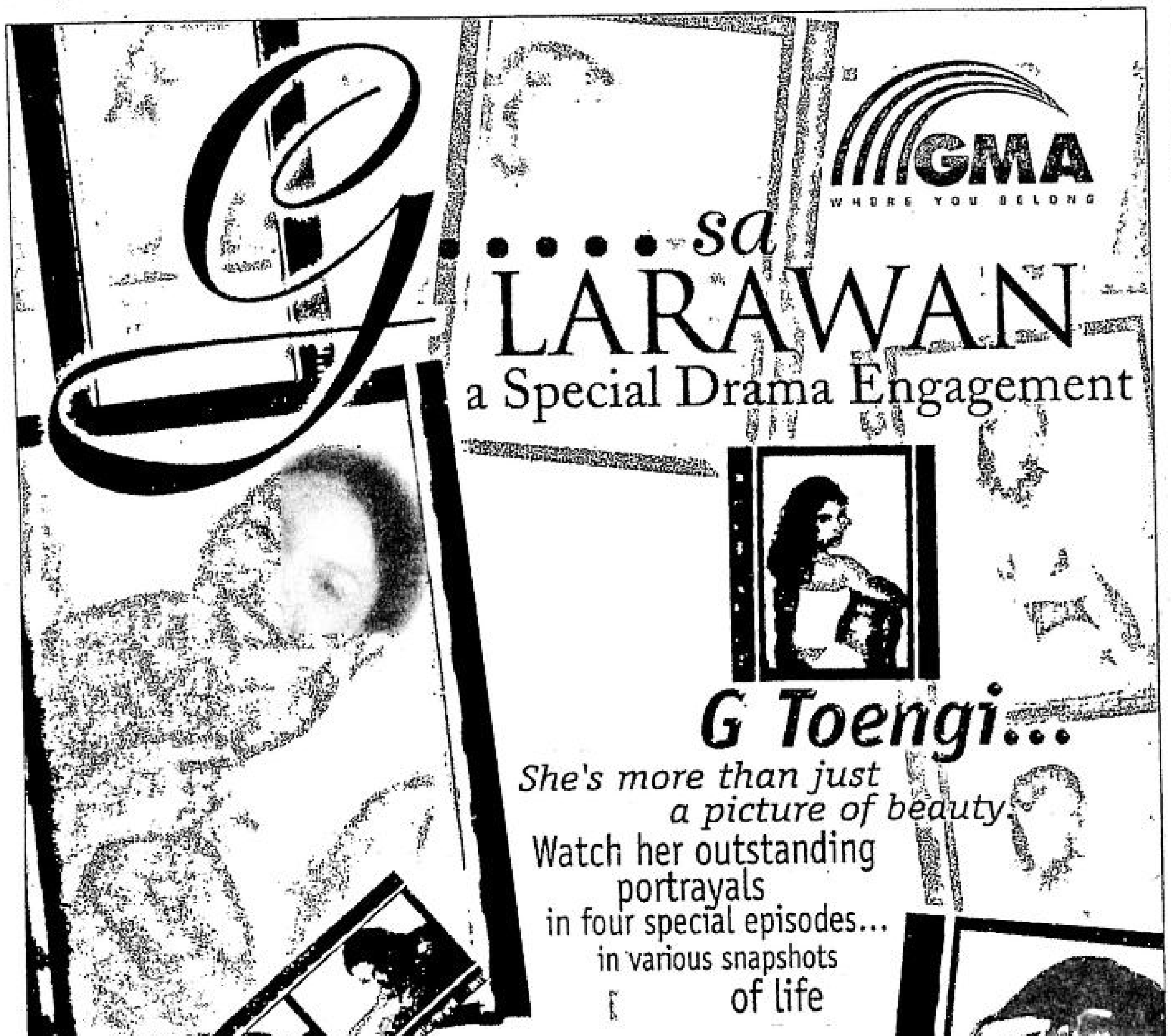
But Regal Films is quick to field in another movie. **Jeric Raval** topbills "Bala Ko. . . Bahala sa 'Yo," which is expected to continue his winning streak at the tills.

The hard action-comedy flick is megged by a director on the rise **Pong Mercado**. In it, Jeric plays an unorthodox cop whose devil-may-care crime-fighting ways often get him into a squabble with the law he has vowed to uphold.

"My character here is not the typical cop," says Jeric. "*Ibang klase 'yung style ko ng pagka-pulis. Kung paano mag-isip 'yung mga kriminal na hinuhuli ko, gano'n din ako mag-isip. Kung gaano sila kasama, gano'n din ako. Apoy*

KIKO/A29

RAVAL. Well-loved celluloid hero.



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Piel in another bold role

FLT Films's presents "The Virgin Wife," starring screen goddess Piel Morena, with Tonton Gutierrez, Leandro Baldemor, Ace Espinosa, Izza Ignacio and Julio Diaz.

Piel's last bold movie was the critical and commercial success, "Senswal: Bakit Masarap ang bawal," also from FLT Films.

In "The Virgin Wife," Piel does frontal nudity which took the Appeals Committee in Malacañang to classify the movie.

MORENA. Plays the title role in "The Virgin Wife."

Kiko...

(From page A28)

laban sa apoy ang diskarte ko.

"If you're on the side of the law, you don't have to worry, 'bala ko ang bahala sa 'yo. But if you're a crook, 'yun din ang motto ko."

Jeric is a well-loved celluloid hero whose onscreen and off-screen persona offers the public a refreshing departure from his colleagues. He exudes a boyish charm, coupled with a gritty dose of wit and big screen derring-do. All these account for Jeric's appeal which makes him a box office favorite. His track record with Regal also boasts of a list of smash hits—"Nikilado," "Sagot Ko ang Buhay Mo" and "Anghel de la Guardia."

"Bala Ko . . ." mixes slam-bang action with sharp-witted hilarity as Jeric shares antics with his bungling cop sidekick played by **Dinky Doo Jr.**

Kier Legaspi plays the merciless villain and **Patrick de la Rosa** is the ruthless criminal whom Jeric pursues.

"This is a good start for me," says Jeric of his first starrer for the year. *"Ayoko ng diskarteng patalo so 'yun din ang gusto kong pelikula para sa mga nanonood."*

Greetings

HAPPY birthday to **Kris Aquino**, who turns 30 today. The second part of Kris' birthday special, which was taped Monday night at ABS-CBN, will be aired on "Today with Kris," 11 a.m. today.

And Happy Valentine's Day to lovers who know the real meaning of love, and even to individuals who, despite not having a significant other, certainly know how to give unconditional love. We have yet to learn that, of course. Okay, guilty as charged!

SM CINEMA GUIDE

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1	DOLBY SURROUND	IKA-7 GLORYA
2	DOLBY SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	CAST AWAY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	BOUNCE
5	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	VERTICAL LIMIT
6	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
7	DOLBY SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
8	DOLBY SURROUND	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

SM CENTERPOINT 7149532 - 7161416

1	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
2	DOLBY SURROUND	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
3	DTS	CAST AWAY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	VERTICAL LIMIT
6	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
7	DOLBY SURROUND	PROOF OF LIFE
8	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BOUNCE
10	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BOOBA

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9350749

1	DOLBY SURROUND	PROOF OF LIFE
2	DOLBY SURROUND	WHAT WOMEN WANT
3	DOLBY SURROUND	VIRGIN WIFE
4	DOLBY DIGITAL	CAST AWAY
5	DOLBY SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
6	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
7	DOLBY DIGITAL	VERTICAL LIMIT
8	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BOUNCE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
11	DOLBY SURROUND	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
12	DOLBY SURROUND	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA IYO

SM CITY MANILA 5238240

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	FAMILY MAN
2	DOLBY DIGITAL	VERTICAL LIMIT
3	DOLBY SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
4	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	NURSE BETTY
6	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	CAST AWAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
8	DOLBY SURROUND	PROOF OF LIFE
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BOUNCE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	WHAT WOMEN WANT
11	DOLBY SURROUND	BOOBA
12	DOLBY SURROUND	VIRGIN WIFE

GUADALUPE COMM'L CTR. 8820950

1	ULTRA SURROUND	VITAL PARTS
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	IKA-7 GLORYA
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SYOTA NG BAYAN

SM MEGAMALL 6331901 - 6328401

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	VERTICAL LIMIT
2	DOLBY SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	FAMILY MAN
4	DTS	CAST AWAY
5	DOLBY SURROUND	BOUNCE
6	DOLBY SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
9	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
10	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	DOLBY SURROUND	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
2	DOLBY SURROUND	WHAT WOMEN WANT
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
4	DOLBY SURROUND	BOUNCE
5	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
6	DOLBY SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
7	DTS	CAST AWAY
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	VERTICAL LIMIT
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CAST AWAY
10	DOLBY SURROUND	VIRGIN WIFE
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	PROOF OF LIFE
12	DOLBY SURROUND	BOOBA

SM SOUTHMALL 8066988 - 8066782

1	ULTRA SURROUND	VERTICAL LIMIT
2	ULTRA SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
3	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	102 DALMATIANS
4	ULTRA SURROUND	CAST AWAY
5	ULTRA SURROUND	VITAL PARTS
6	ULTRA SURROUND	BOOBA
7	ULTRA SURROUND	BOUNCE
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	CAST AWAY
9	ULTRA SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
10	ULTRA SURROUND	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

TUTUBAN CENTER 2514302

1	ULTRA SURROUND	CAST AWAY
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

SM CEBU 2313876

1	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
2	ULTRA SURROUND	VERTICAL LIMIT
3	ULTRA SURROUND	BOUNCE
4	ULTRA SURROUND	BODY TO BODY
5	ULTRA SURROUND	RED PLANET
6	ULTRA SURROUND	BOOBA
7	DOLBY SURROUND	LITTLE NICKY

SM ILOILO [illegible]09422

1	ULTRA SURROUND	BOOBA
2	ULTRA SURROUND	WHIPPED
3	ULTRA SURROUND	VERTICAL LIMIT
4	ULTRA SURROUND	RED PLANET
5	ULTRA SURROUND	BOUNCE
6	ULTRA SURROUND	CAST AWAY
7	ULTRA SURROUND	DUDE
8	ULTRA SURROUND	TABI TABI PO

SM PAMPANGA 7128015

1	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	CAST AWAY
2	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	VERTICAL LIMIT
3	DOLBY SURROUND	PROOF OF LIFE
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
5	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	VITAL PARTS
6	DOLBY SURROUND	IKA-7 GLORYA

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1	CAST AWAY
2	102 DALMATIANS
3	FAMILY MAN
4	VERTICAL LIMIT

GLORIETTA 4

1	BOUNCE In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	WHAT WOMEN WANT In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	CAST AWAY THX In DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	NURSE BETTY Art Film In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	102 DALMATIANS In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	FAMILY MAN In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	PROOF OF LIFE In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1	CAST AWAY In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	FAMILY MAN In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	NURSE BETTY In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4	SOON TO OPEN Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	CAST AWAY THX In DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2	FAMILY MAN In DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	102 DALMATIANS DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	NURSE BETTY In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	BOUNCE In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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2 (SDDS)	102 DALMATIANS
3 (DTS)	CAST AWAY
4 GOLD (DTS)	PROOF OF LIFE
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	BOUNCE
6 GOLD (SDDS)	CLOSED
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	VERTICAL LIMIT
8 [illegible]	NURSE BETTY
9 [illegible]	WHAT WOMEN WANT
10 [illegible]	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
2	VIRGIN WIFE
3 (DTS)	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
4	
5	
6 (DTS)	

Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315

1 (DOLBY)	FAMILY MAN
2 (DTS)	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
3	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	VIRGIN WIFE
2	FAMILY WIFE
3	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	CAST AWAY
2	VIRGIN WIFE
3	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	102 DALMATIANS
5	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001

1	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
2	IKA-7 GLORYA
3	HAPLOS
4	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
5	VIRGIN WIFE
6	CAST AWAY
7	FAMILY MAN
8	102 DALMATIANS

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2	VERTICAL LIMIT

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	HAPLOS
2	VIRGIN WIFE
3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	VIRGIN WIFE
A	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG

JC Cinema
(Parañaque) tel 825.8626

1	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
3	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

GOTESCO CINEMAS

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	CAST AWAY
2	VIRGIN WIFE
3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
4	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
5	BOUNCE
6	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
7 (DTS)	FAMILY MAN
8 (SDDS)	102 DALMATIANS
9 (DOLBY)	NURSE BETTY

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
3	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
4	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
5	
6	

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
2	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
4 (SDDS)	VIRGIN WIFE
5	FAMILY MAN
6 (DOLBY)	102 DALMATIANS
7 (DTS)	CAST AWAY
8	IKA-7 GLORYA
9	VERTICAL LIMIT

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	CAST AWAY
2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
3	102 DALMATIANS
4	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
5 (SDDS)	VIRGIN WIFE
6	FAMILY MAN
7 (DOLBY)	NURSE BETTY
8	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	VIRGIN WIFE
2	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
3 (DTS)	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
4	CAST AWAY
5 (SDDS)	102 DALMATIANS
6 (DOLBY)	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
7 (DOLBY)	FAMILY MAN

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
Lords	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
Jennet	VIRGIN WIFE

Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
2	102 DALMATIANS
3	CAST AWAY
4	VIRGIN WIFE

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

1	
3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG

Super Cinerama
(Manila) tel 733.4226 or 733.4238

1	CAST AWAY
2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
4	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
5	FAMILY MAN

Divisoria Mall
(Manila) tel 244.4560 or 244.4619

1	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
4	VIRGIN WIFE
5	IKA-7 GLORYA
6	

Baclaran LRT Cinema
tel 512.0115 or 512.0116

1	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
3	FAMILY MAN

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna) tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	VIRGIN WIFE
2	102 DALMATIANS
3 (DTS)	CAST AWAY

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	VIRGIN WIFE
2 (DTS)	WHAT WOMEN WANT
3 (DOLBY)	CAST AWAY
4	102 DALMATIANS

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	CAST AWAY
2	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
3	HAPLOS
4 (DTS)	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	102 DALMATIANS
2	IKA-7 GLORYA
3 (DTS)	CAST AWAY
4	VIRGIN WIFE
5	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	CAST AWAY
2	102 DALMATIANS
3	IKA-7 GLORYA

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	CAST AWAY
2	102 DALMATIANS
3	IKA-7 GLORYA

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	PROOF OF LIFE
2	VIRGIN WIFE
3	VITAL PARTS

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	102 DALMATIANS
2	CAST AWAY
3	

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
2	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
3	102 DALMATIANS
4	

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 243.2783

1 (DTS)	102 DALMATIANS
2 (DTS)	RESERVE

Fourstep
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1	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG

Emperor
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2	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
3	VIRGIN WIFE

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2	THE CONTENDER
3	VERTICAL LIMIT
4	VIRGIN WIFE

Berma
tel 879.2168

1	
2	

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
3	VIRGIN WIFE
4	102 DALMATIANS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	CAST AWAY
2	BOUNCE
3	PROOF OF LIFE
4 (DTS EX)	102 DALMATIANS

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4. RED PLANET
5. SUPER IDOL
6. DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	VITAL PARTS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	CAST AWAY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	102 DALMATIANS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	VERTICAL LIMIT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	PROOF OF LIFE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	NURSE BETTY
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	IKA-7 GLORYA
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
MIRAMAR	VIRGIN WIFE
ODEON	CAST AWAY
ODEON-2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
ROBEN	VIRGIN WIFE
TANDEM-1	MALIKOT ANG AGOS
TANDEM-2	PALIGAYAHIN MO AKO
TIMES	BEDAZZLED / THE WATCHER
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	ANAK NG YAKUSA
ACT-2	ANAK NG KANO
ACT-3	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
ACT-4	TURN ON
CORONET-2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
QUEZON-1	VIRGIN WIFE
REMAR	VIRGIN WIFE
REMAR-2	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
CUBAO	
OCEAN SUPERAMA	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
OCEAN CINEMA-A	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
OCEAN CINEMA-B	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-70/633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	VERTICAL LIMIT
CINEMA-2	102 DALMATIANS
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-54091 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
CINEMA-2	BALA KO ANG BAHALA SA 'YO
CINEMA-3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	VERTICAL LIMIT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	VITAL PARTS
CINEMA-6	IKA-7 GLORYA
CINEMA-7	VIRGIN WIFE
CINEMA-8	WHAT WOMEN WANT
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	CAST AWAY
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	FAMILY MAN
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	102 DALMATIANS
CINEMA-12	NURSE BETTY
CINEMA-14	PROOF OF LIFE
CINEMA-15	BOUNCE
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
CINEMA-3	LAKAS AT PAG IBIG
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	102 DALMATIANS
CINEMA-2	CAST AWAY
CINEMA-3	BOUNCE
CINEMA-4	NURSE BETTY
CINEMA-5	CAST AWAY
CINEMA-6	FAMILY MAN

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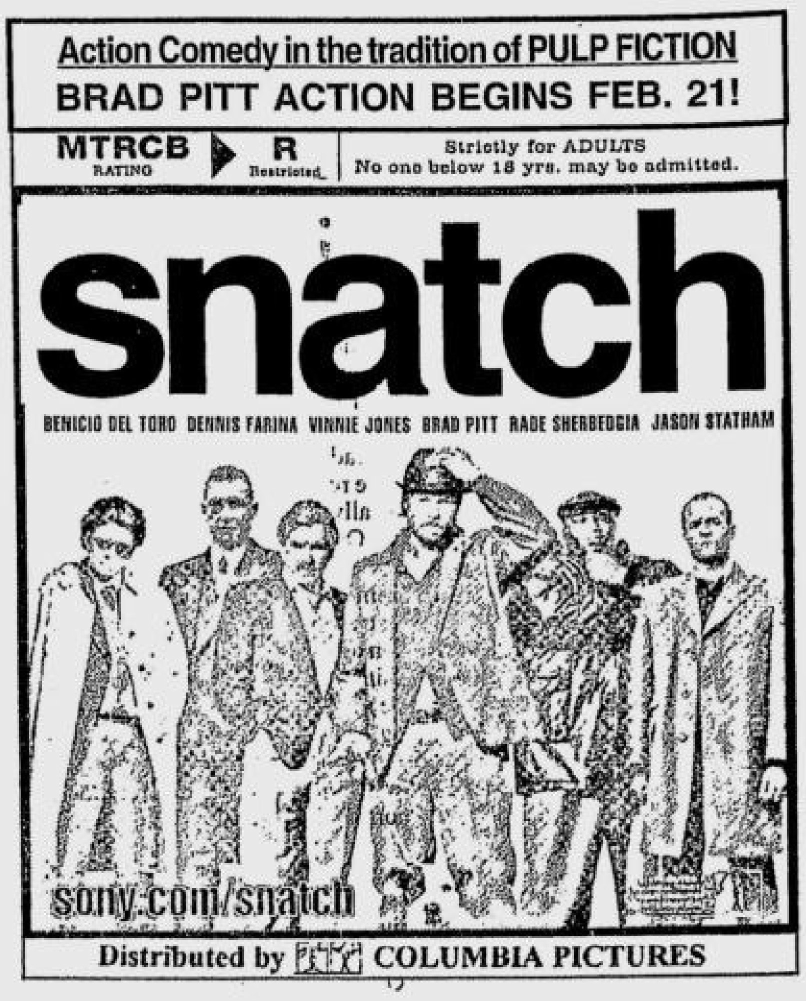
Sa Iyong Mga Haplos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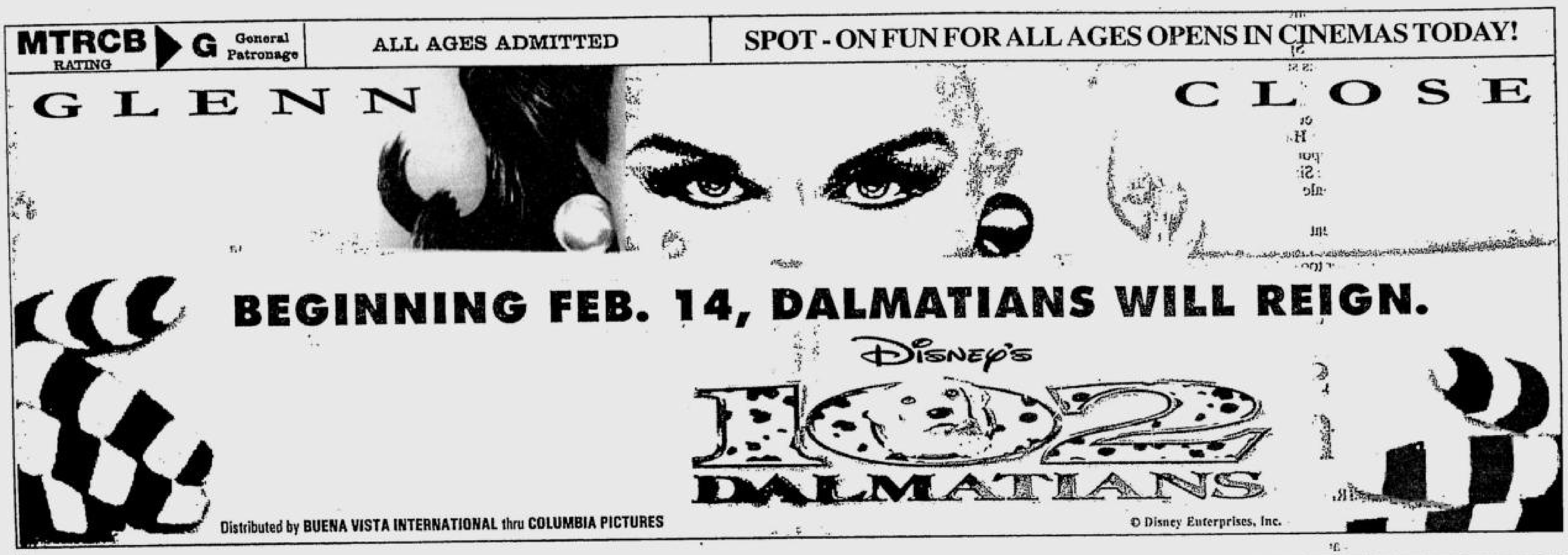
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GLENN CLOSE
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DISNEY'S 102 DALMATIANS
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TOM HANKS
GOLDEN GLOBE BEST ACTOR
At the edge of the world, his journey begins.
A ROBERT ZEMECKIS FILM
CAST AWAY
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ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Good time to go to the movies

THIS is a particularly good time to the movies, with more than the usual number of creditable films available for viewing this week, or in the days to come.

"Blame" it on the approaching Academy Awards, which prime viewers to be more receptive to outstanding films than they usually are, because they want to second-guess the Oscars' final choices.

Thus, in Metro Manila this week, film buffer can sample these relatively exceptional treats:

"The Contender," starring **Joan Allen** as a US vice-presidential appointee whose nomination is challenged by political foes who dredge up some "scandals" she was involved in during her college days.

"Bounce," with **Gwyneth Paltrow** winning high marks for her felt and insightful portrayal of a young widow.

"Cast Away," with **Tom Hanks** as a go-getter who is forced to face up to the major issues in his life when he's stranded on an uninhabited island for four years after a plane crash.

Coming up soon are other possible Oscar contenders like:

"Quills," with **Geoffrey Rush** playing the **Marquis De Sade.**

"Pay It Forward," starring **Kevin Spacey** as a disfigured teacher who motivates his students to do something noble and selfless for strangers, who in turn widen the ripples of that circle of goodness by also helping other needy people who come their way. Child actor **Haley Joel Osment**, who earned a best supporting actor nomination for his film debut in "The Sixth Sense," costars. **Helen Hunt** plays the female lead.

Stars on love

MICHAEL Caine: Love is the great incentive—not just sex.

Ingrid Bergman: One is never too old for romance!

Jane Fonda: Love, when I had it, was a passion which left me lonely and bored.

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Barbara Hershey: I believe in love at first sight—but I don't know if it's really love.

Kelly McGillis: Love isn't intellectual, it's visceral!

Marcello Mastroianni: The preparation, the filtration, the use of the eyes—that's more stimulating than any drug.

Lyn Redgrave: Love brings you out of your shell.

Faye Dunaway: In a love affair, you sometimes lose your judgment.

Haylee Mills: Love emboldens.

Warren Beatty: You love somebody once, you love her forever—only maybe not as much as your next lover!

Raquel Welch: There's a lot of bad lovers around.

Jamie Lee Curtis: I can probably count the lovers I've had on my fingers and toes. No, just fingers. One hand!

Angie Dickinson: I regret three one-night stands—no, make that four!

Lily Tomlin: If love is the answer, can you rephrase the question?

Walt Disney: I love Mickey Mouse more than any woman I've ever known!

Arnold Schwarzenegger: I have a love interest in every one of my films – a gun.

Mickey Rooney: Love wears off too quickly.

Mae West: I never loved another person the way I loved myself.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Quick cuts

THE WISEGUYS will be featured in a Valentine concert today, Feb. 14, 10 p.m. at the Chaterbox at Robinsons Galleria. The group made up of **Jam Capistrano, Guy Gonzales, Jay Roa Yu** and **Art Paul Sison** has come up with a self-titled album that has produced a couple of hit singles, "Sa Wari Ko" and "Kuwago."

The Wiseguys also participated in the inspirational album, Mother of All," which has gone platinum, and in "Servant of All," which was recently honored with a double platinum award.

Meanwhile, the documentary, "Siglo Filipino: Odyssey of A Nation," which chronicles 100 years of Philippine history, will be premired at 6 p.m. today, Feb. 14, at the NCCA building's Tanghalang Leandro V. Locsin (633 General Luna St., Intramuros, Manila).

The documentary is a project of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts' Cinema Values Reorientation Program, in association with Infinit-1 production and GMA-7, written by **Nick Joaquin**, directed by **Butch Nolasco** and narrated by **Jose V. Avellana.**

Finally, at 9 p.m. today, the Star Movies channel presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream" with **Kevin Kline, Michelle Pfeiffer, Rupert Everett** and **Calista Flockhart.**

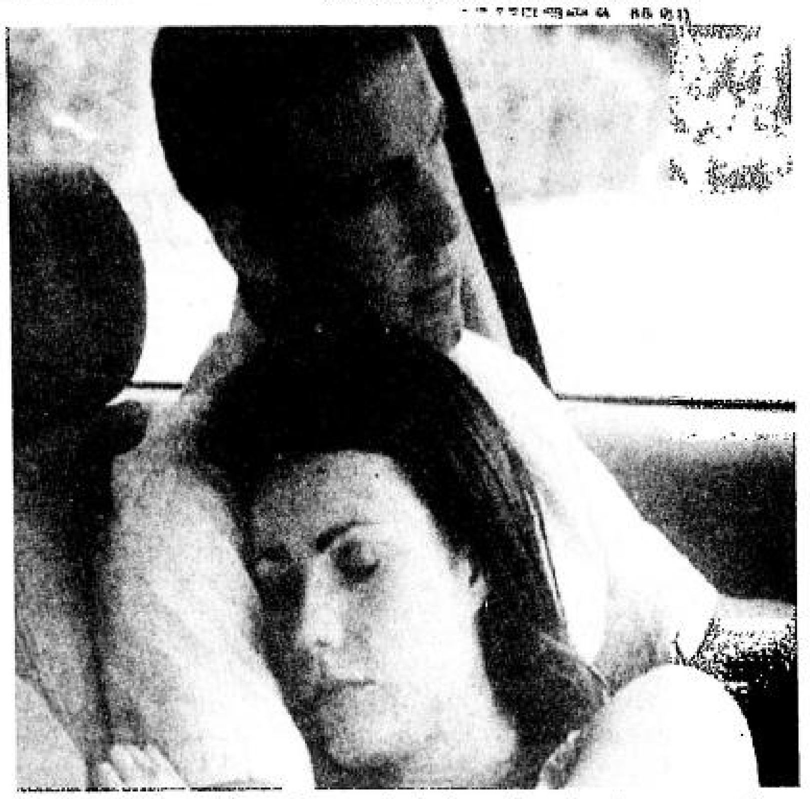
Poetry reading and concert

A UNIQUE poetry reading and concert, Samahan ng Malalamig ang Valentine," will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15 at Freedom Bar (on Anonas Rd. near the corner of Aurora Blvd. in Project, 3, QC).

Slated to perform are Session Road, **Darryl Shy, Cynthia Alexander, Medwin Marfil** of Truefaith, **Aia de Leon** of Imago, and **QT Paduano** and **Renmin Nadela** of Agaw Agimat.

Also performing are journalist-musicians **Andy Suva** of Jacket, **Kap Aguila, Igan D'Bayan, Dong Magsajo** and **Mayo Uno Martin**, plus surprise guests.

Call 433-3113. Net proceeds will be donated to the forthcoming Short Film Festival of the Writers Studio.



BEN Affleck comforts Gwyneth Paltrow in a tender scene from "Bounce."

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CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND·EX

102 DALMATIANS - G 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10	CAST AWAY - P 13 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00	BOUNCE - P 13 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
NURSE BETTY - P 13 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40	CAST AWAY - P 13 11:40, 2:30, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00	FAMILY MAN - P 13 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI

Former sex slave stars in pioneering Ilonggo film on women's oppression

BY NESTOR P. BURGOS JR.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ONE night during the World War II, two Japanese soldiers abducted an 18-year-old waitress on her way home and brought her to a tightly guarded house at the heart of Iloilo City.

Every night for almost a year, two to three soldiers entered her room, raped and beat her as they drowned her cries for mercy.

After many years of wallowing in guilt and pain, she surfaced to tell her ordeal as women's groups launched a campaign in the early 1990s to locate Filipino women forced as Japanese sex slaves during the war.

Together with other "comfort women," she has been demanding an official apology and retribution from the Japanese government. After nearly a decade of lawsuits and protest actions, the Japanese government still refused to grant their demands, in part aided by the Philippine government's refusal to file a lawsuit in behalf of the victims.

More than 50 years after her ordeal, Lourdes Sequio Divinagracia, now 77, is bringing her fight to the silver screen as she stars in a pioneering Ilonggo film on women's oppression that premiered in Iloilo City on Feb. 6.

"I'm probably the oldest debuting star," she says.

Though she failed to finish elementary school, Lourdes has no qualms performing before an audience. She has bagged awards in singing contests during fiestas since her youth.

"After two bottles of beer, I could sing forever," she says.

She is also a frequent sight in rallies led by the women's group Gabriela and Lila-Filipina, a nongovernment organization helping the former sex slaves.

"She would tell us to fetch her at home every time there's a protest action," says Rea Ogoy, Lila-Filipina coordinator.

Always beaming and cracking jokes, Lourdes turns teary-eyed every time she recalls her ordeal at a "comfort station" on Zerrudo Street in Iloilo City. "For years, I would stay awake late at night, trembling and crying, hating them."

In between the rapes and beatings, the Japanese soldiers also forced Lourdes and the other abused women in the garrison to do chores for them.

Strange twist

Her fate took a strange twist when a Japanese Army official, Tukushi Miyasato, who had ordered her to look after his children in the garrison, died in a battle off the coast of Cebu as the war was about to end.

Unable to bear the thought of leaving them alone, she brought Kyuhiko, 5; Jeriko, 2; and Tsitsuko, one and a half years old, to her home in Barangay Buyo, Sta. Barbara town, 15 kilometers north of Iloilo City.

"Despite my hatred for the Japanese, I took care of them because they would not leave my side," says Lourdes, adding that her clothes were torn when the children clung to her tightly.

She treated the children as her own. Filipino soldiers once came to their house and ordered them to line up near the river. The soldiers wanted to shoot the children.

Lourdes shielded the youngsters and dared the soldiers to shoot her first. "They were innocent and I would not let anybody hurt them."

They were not harmed after a Filipino soldier interceded. Lourdes and the soldier, Juan Divinagracia, later got married and had seven children. But her problems did not end there.

Her family, relatives and neighbors hated the Japanese children and refused to give any help, even food. Left on her own, she sold banana leaves at P1 each to fish vendors just to buy corn and salt, which she ground to feed the children.

LOURDES Sequio Divinagracia brings her fight to the silver screen.

Jeriko died of illness, while Kyuhiko and Tsitsuko tried to enroll in an elementary school near their home.

Their classmates and even the teachers treated them like outcasts. "They always came home bloodied, with scratches, their clothes torn from the beatings of children who yelled: *'Bata sang Hapon! Bata sang Hapon!'* (Japanese kids!)," Lourdes recalls.

She pleaded to other children and the teachers to spare Kyuhiko and Tsitsuko from abuse. When the harassment continued, she accompanied the two to school with a stick, ready to strike at anyone who would hurt the children.

Kyuhiko refused to go back to school. Tsitsuko also quit after the sixth grade.

Lourdes surfaced in the early 1990s after hearing from radio stations that Gabriela was documenting cases of "comfort women" and urging them to come out and seek retribution from the Japanese government.

When her case was being documented, she met the aunt of Kyuhiko and Tsitsuko, who came to Manila and offered to bring her them home to Japan. But the siblings opted to stay in Iloilo.

Kyuhiko, now 60, works as a hired hand, while Tsitsuko, 56, has her own family.

Natural actress

During the film's shooting, no one could imagine Lourdes' terrible ordeal decades ago. She danced during breaks, sang with the crew, and stayed late at night for the filming. The crew, most of whom are in their late teens and early twenties, loved her for easing the tension from the long hours of tedious shooting.

"We had lots of fun," says Lourdes, quickly acting out scenes from the movie.

Lourdes Villanueva, 23, the assistant director, says her namesake, who has 45 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, is a natural actress. "For someone without any background on acting, she was so easy to motivate."

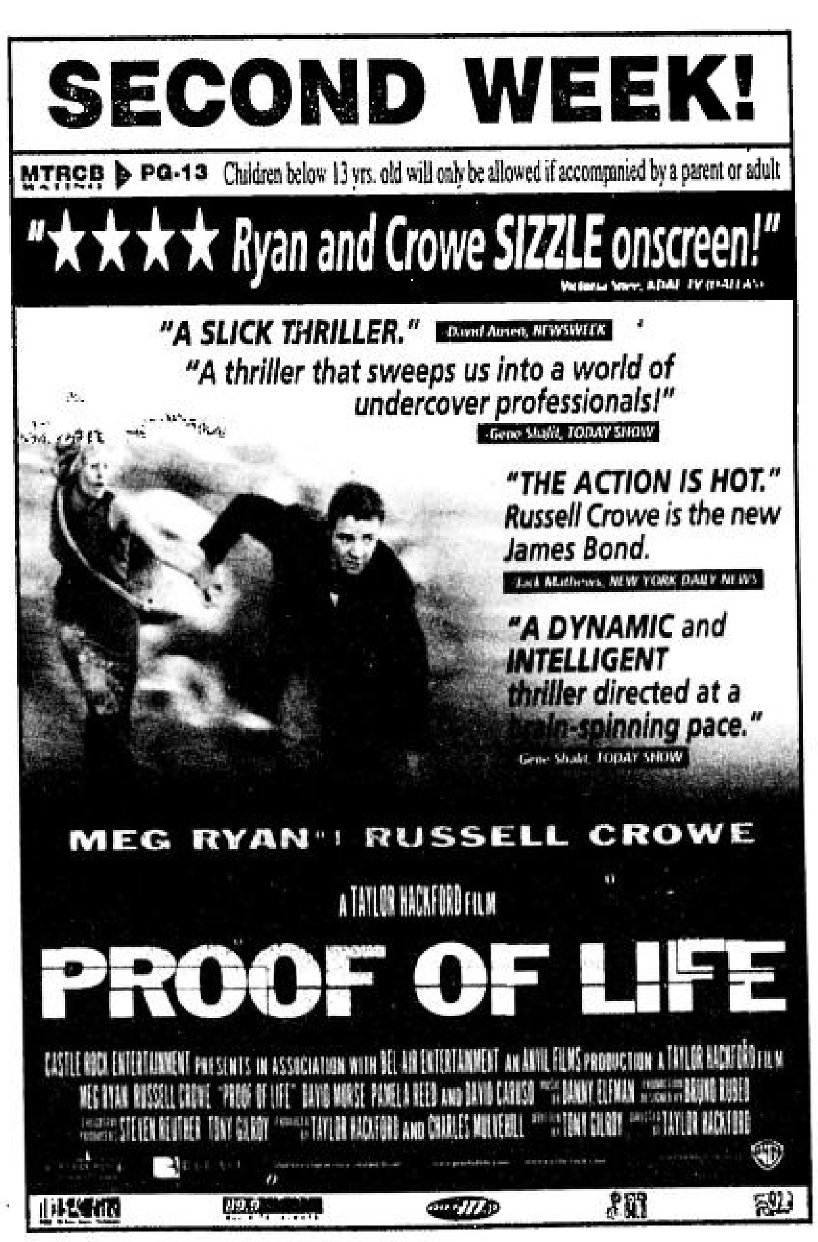
A work of amateur independent filmmakers under Mowelfund Film Institute, the film "Hulot" (Hiligaynon for room) is now being shown at a local moviehouse, SM Cinema 6, together with other art films included in this year's "Pelikula at Lipunan" festival in Manila.

"Hulot" delves on the relationship of a matriarch, Doña Maring (played by Lourdes), who dominates the life of her daughter Ibyang.

"I accepted the role because I liked the story," says Lourdes.

She says she sees herself in the movie's characters.

With justice still elusive to her despite her age, Lourdes says she would like to spend the rest of her life hoping that the painful memories will just fade like the movie's ending.



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BUSINESS

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Coco farmers seek control of UCPB

By Clarissa S. Batino

COCONUT farmers have asked the Macapagal administration to give them majority seats in the 15-member board of the United Coconut Planters Bank to finally reap the benefits of the oppressive levy collected from their ranks during the time of Marcos.

Omi Royandoyan, head of the Multisectoral Task Force on the Coco Levy, said the small coconut farmers wanted to have at least eight board seats in UCPB.

The small coconut farmers are also pushing the government to remove Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco out of San Miguel Corp. and to appoint a new chair that would represent the interests of the farmers.

"We definitely want Cojuangco out of San Miguel. He does not represent us, he never did," Royandoyan said.

Cojuangco, an associate of Marcos and of ousted President Joseph Estrada, was believed behind the collection of the coconut levy from small farmers, with the fund used later to acquire UCPB and to buy shares in San Miguel.

The multisectoral task force, according to Royandoyan, was more concerned on being represented in UCPB.

"Once we have representation in the UCPB board, we have to clarify the social responsibility of the bank such that it would prioritize the needs of small coconut farmers," Royandoyan said.

UCPB is the eighth largest with assets of P107 billion and deposits of P80.5 billion. It is classified as a regular commercial bank.

Royandoyan stressed that the commercial aspect of the bank would not be affected. "We just want it to be like a Land Bank for coconut farmers," he said.

He added that the farmers agreed with the planned appointment of former Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme as the chair of UCPB. Jayme is a member of the multisectoral task force.

Current members of the UCPB board are bank chair Jeronimo Kilayco, president Lorenzo Tan, and directors Juan Carlos, Redentor Alegre, Albert Gohu, Andres Narvasa Jr., Romeo Odi, Manuel Pamaran, Rosario Razon, Danilo Reyes, Mila Reforma, Agustin Salgado and Rebecca Ynares.

Virgilio Jacinto is the corporate secretary while Aquilino Pimentel III resigned as director last November.

Francisco del Rosario, former vice chair of the Development Bank of the Philippines and vice president of the Government Service Insurance System, is being considered to replace Tan as president.

Finance Secretary Alberto Romulo said a legal study on whether the UCPB and San Miguel

COCO/ B2

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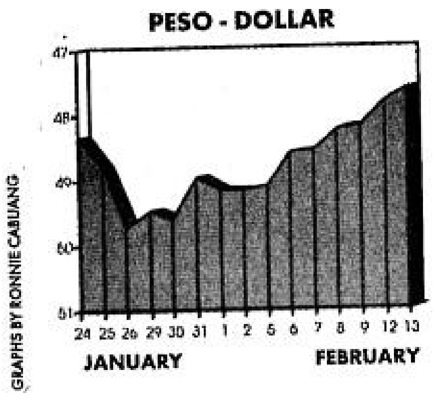

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As of 5 p.m.,
Feb. 13, 2001

¥117.22 = $1
The US dollar was trading at 117.22 as of 5 p.m., Feb. 13, 2001

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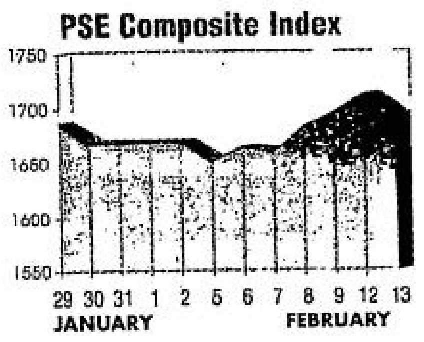
STOCK MARKET

Stocks end lower

STOCKS pulled back yesterday as profit takers moved in following three consecutive days of gains, traders said.

"We saw profit-taking come in today . . . it hit the power stocks and since there was no follow through buying you would expect a correction," All Asia Asset Management portfolio manager Albert Chua said.

STOCKS/ B2



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Japan computer firm seen expanding RP operations

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

FUJITSU Corp., the world's biggest computer maker, is reportedly considering expanding its Philippine hard disk drive factory in Laguna in line with its goal of developing it as its biggest information storage manufacturing facility in the region.

Fujitsu's planned expansion should further bolster the Philippines' status as the hub of hard disk drive manufacturing in the region. Japanese disk drive makers with factories in the Philippines are NEC Technologies, Hitachi Computer Products Corp., and Toshiba Information Equipment.

A top official of a major Japanese supplier said Fujitsu was keen on expanding the capacity of its Philippine factory to a level that would surpass the current output of its disk drive operations in Thailand. This is why several Japanese supplier firms have been scouting the Philippines in anticipation of increased demand for components if Fujitsu expands its presence here.

The official said Fujitsu had apparently changed its strategy of developing Thailand as its disk drive manufacturing center in the region after other Japanese disk drive makers were seen doing well in the Philippines.

He said the Philippines should surpass Thailand's disk drive production in two to three years.

Fujitsu's Thailand factory produces high-volume, low-margin disk drives while Fujitsu Philippines churns out products for the high-end market similar to those being developed in its Japan factory.

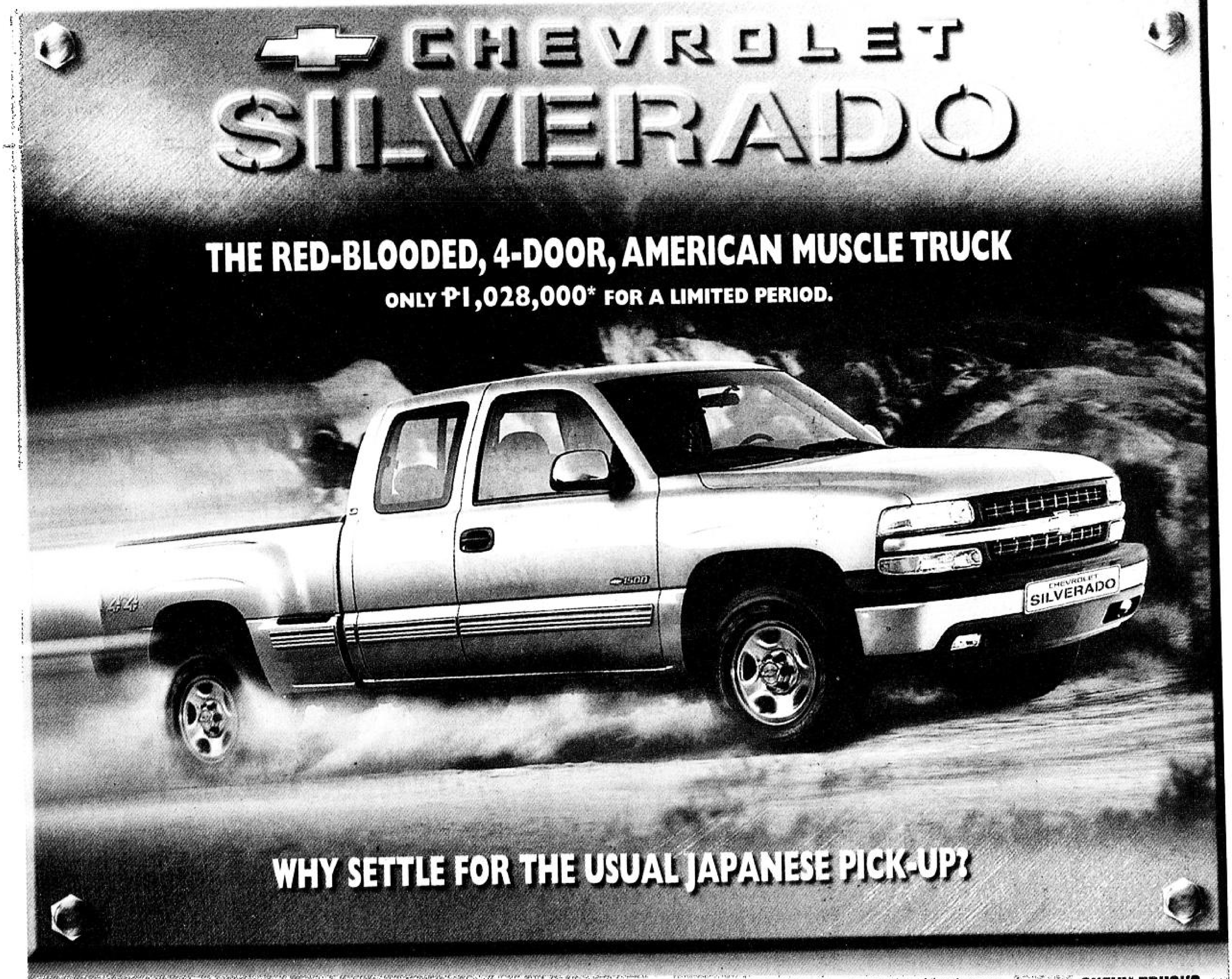
In a statement, Fujitsu said it has no plans of increasing its hard disk drive production to levels higher than its Thailand operations. Fujitsu noted that its Philippine unit produces 900,000 hard disk drives a month. Although there are no available figures for the Thailand business, Fujitsu said both subsidiaries have a "50-50 share of total production."

Fujitsu noted that although labor costs were lower in the Philippines, it claimed that Thailand engineers were better and that country had better infrastructure, power and transport facilities.

But a 1999 study on the Philippine hard disk drive industry by Gwendolyn Tecson of the UP School of Economics showed that Japanese disk drive makers were flocking to the Philippines because of its strategic location; relatively abundant supply of workers, engineers and technical graduates; and English-speaking labor.

Tecson said the Philippines was being considered as a relocation site for Japanese disk drive component manufacturers presently based in Singapore and Malaysia in the same way that Thailand had been chosen for automotive parts production and Indonesia for audiovisual and household appliances.

Due to the growing concentration of Japanese disk drive makers in the country, Tecson said the Philippines has been dubbed the "second disk island" after Singapore.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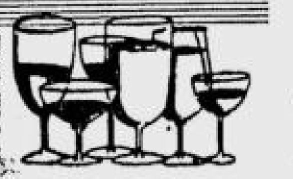

By Victor C. Agustin

PRESIDENTIAL Adviser Margarita "Ting Ting" Cojuangco sent a steaming fax to the INQUIRER in reaction to the Heard Through the Grapevine item in Monday's column.

For those who may have missed it, this was the offending report:

"A leading socialite/columnist dispensing advice on family matters is suing her septuagenarian mother out of their modest ancestral home in old Makati.

"What is tragic is that the retired mother has no other home while her daughter now lives in a sprawling hacienda (not to mention Dasmariñas Village), where race horses and prized cocks are cared and doted upon more than humans."

Cojuangco then sent this letter to INQUIRER editor-in-chief Leticia Jimenez-Magsanoc which, save for the salutation and ending, we hereby reprint unedited:

"The INQUIRER today (Feb. 12, 2001) has in its business page B4 in the column of Victor C. Agustin an article about a columnist who is suing her mother who has 'no home.' It is not difficult to know that Agustin is referring to me from a call I received from two friends. I write this letter strongly objecting to a lie he is perpetuating and his irresponsibility of (sic) damaging my reputation. Could you ask him why? I know you have a sense of justice. Letty speak to him.

"Court records will prove his allegations untrue. I dare him to go to every court himself to investigate. I dare the INQUIRER also to do its research on what it prints."

Cocktales' reply: We stand by our story.

103rd Dalmatian

POVEDAN alumnae have a bone to pick against San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada in connection with the recent advance screening of "102 Dalmatians" at the Greenhills Theater.

Not only did Estrada deny a request of the Alumnae Association of Poveda to waive the P10,000 mayor's permit for the benefit show, the ex-presidential son was also alleged to have sat down on the permit unless he was given 10 complimentary tickets.

The Povedans suspect the school's active participation in the Edsa II rallies—the school grounds were even used by Kompil for their meetings—may have something to do with their snarled relations with the mayor.

An Estrada daughter, incidentally, is enrolled at Poveda.

The 'F' word

IN the dying days of the Estrada administration, publisher Mark Jimenez filed half a dozen libel complaints against the INQUIRER over a series of articles describing the former Miami-based businessman's troubles with Uncle Sam.

In the whole, Jimenez's only beef with the INQUIRER is the paper's penchant to attach the "F" adjective whenever his name is mentioned, an appendage, he claims, that gives the impression that he already had been convicted of the federal charges when they have yet to be heard.

Since this space had also used the "F" adjective in several MJ columns—we have not been made a respondent of the libel complaints, so far—we rechecked the meaning of the term in Barron's Law Dictionary.

This is how Barron's, quoting US legal journals, describes the dreaded word:

One who commits a crime within a state, and then withdraws himself from that state without waiting to abide the consequences of the crime he there committed; also one who conceals himself within the state in order to avoid its process; is applicable even to those who leave the state for another purpose.

Heard through the grapevine

NOW that it has retaken Coca-Cola, San Miguel vice chair Ramon Ang has committed to Coke's US principals that San Miguel would increase the local market share of the world's favorite drink to 80 percent from the current 60 percent within the first year of the takeover.

This San Miguel intends to do while it raises Coke's retail prices, a marketing move that should also increase the dealers' markup for every bottle/can sold.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

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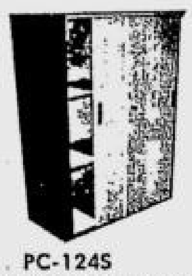
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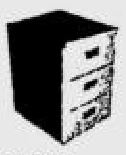
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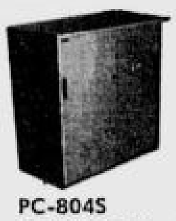
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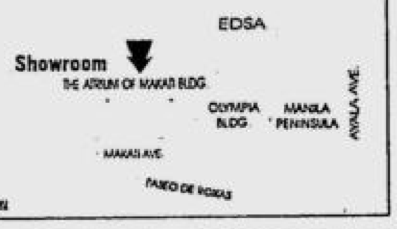

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Stocks end lower

(From page B1)

He added, however, that with turnover thin, the slide "was neither here nor there."

On a weekly charts basis, Chua said the market seemed a little overbought and was likely to see further downside but this would be limited.

"We are still in the honeymoon stage (following the change in administration) and there are likely to be spurts of optimism as well," Chua said.

Securities 2000 trader Frankie Araneta also said yesterday's pullback was not the start of a major correction with sentiment still upbeat and many potential investors including foreigners looking "to come in on dips."

The main composite index closed down 19.79 or 1.16 percent at 1,692.27 points. Turnover weakened to P556.1 million from P734.46 million on Monday.

All Asia Asset Management's Chua said in the short term he saw support for the composite index at 1,660 points but if this level was broken "there could be more downside to the 1,500s."

KGI Securities analyst Fitz Aclan said the next technical support for the index is 1,650 points with the market likely to undergo a brief period of consolidation over the next few days.

Araneta said despite yesterday's slight pullback, the longer term outlook remains positive for the market amid the strengthening peso, easier interest rates and more favorable political environment.

"The main index would be fairly valued at 1,800-1,900 points (in the longer term)," Araneta said,

Over the coming days, he saw technical support at 1,600 points and a likely trading range of 1,680 to 1,710 points. *Reuters*

Coco . . .

(From page B1)

boards could be revamped immediately being prepared by the presidential legal adviser should be completed within the week.

The legal study would also outline the steps the government would take in "correcting" the procedures taken by the Estrada administration that was perceived to have been favorable to his friends like Cojuangco but disadvantageous to the small coconut farmers.

Romulo said the first step would be to rescind EOs 312 and 313 that would have declared the coconut levy funds to be private and subsequently creating a trust fund to hold the proceeds from the sale of the 27-percent San Miguel stake.

"We have to solidify our position that the coconut levy funds are public funds and the beneficiaries are the small coconut farmers," the finance secretary said.

Another step would be to take back the voting rights over the 27-percent stake in San Miguel from Cojuangco, replace five other government directors in the food and beverage firm, and change all 15 directors in UCPB.

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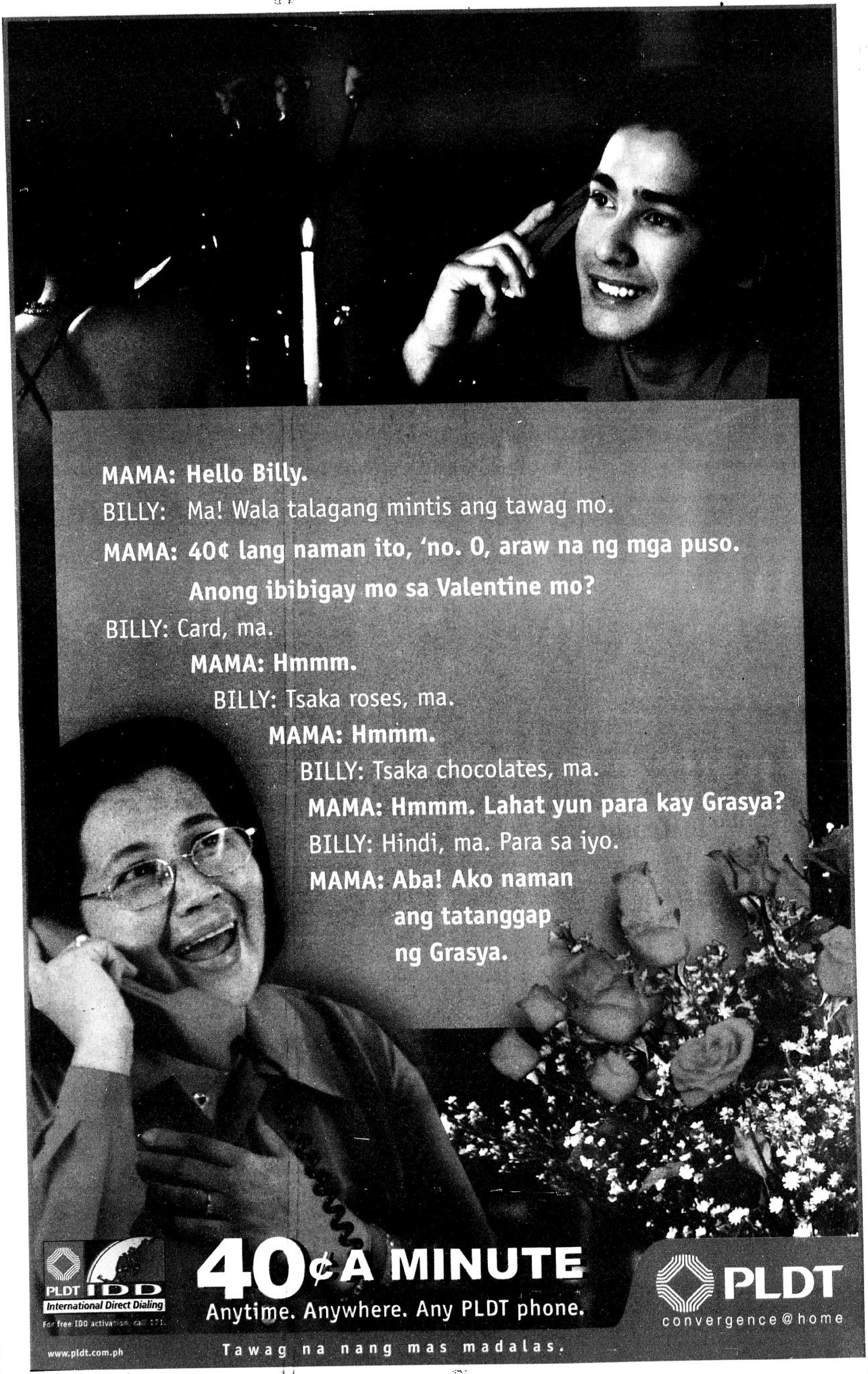

MAMA: Hello Billy.

BILLY: Ma! Wala talagang mintis ang tawag mo.

MAMA: 40¢ lang naman ito, 'no. O, araw na ng mga puso. Anong ibibigay mo sa Valentine mo?

BILLY: Card, ma.

MAMA: Hmmm.

BILLY: Tsaka roses, ma.

MAMA: Hmmm.

BILLY: Tsaka chocolates, ma.

MAMA: Hmmm. Lahat yun para kay Grasya?

BILLY: Hindi, ma. Para sa iyo.

MAMA: Aba! Ako naman ang tatanggap ng Grasya.

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$35-M EXPANSION

Japan firms acquire MVC's 49% stake in Phil. Resins

By Doris C. Dumlao and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

JAPANESE firms Tosoh Corp. and Mitsubishi Corp. will buy out the 49-percent stake held by listed chemical firm Mabuhay Vinyl Corp. in Philippine Resins Industries Inc. (PRII) for P884.92 million.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, MVC corporate secretary Melva Valdez said the Japanese firms had exercised their right of first refusal and decided to buy out MVC in PRII.

This developed as PRII bared plans to invest $35 million to expand the capacity of its Bataan plant in anticipation of higher demand for polyvinyl chloride in the local market.

This will be PRII's second expansion program following the completion of its de-bottlenecking program which boosted capacity to 100,000 tons a year from 70,000 a year.

The $35-million expansion plan will jack up the company's capacity by another 70,000 tons. This is in line with the company's goal of reaching a yearly capacity of 200,000 tons within the next two to three years. PRII said its board was currently evaluating the timing of this expansion.

With the buyout agreement with the Japanese firms, MVC has started to wind up its activities in the PVC resins business. It has offered to transfer the remaining marketing and sales operations to PRII for P120 million.

"Following a major reappraisal of its business, MVC has decided to concentrate on its chlor-alkali business and pursue expansion plans in this area," Valdez said.

Meanwhile, the P884.92-million buying price for MVC's 49 percent stake in PRII is equivalent to 1.2 times the book value of the resin manufacturing firm.

MVC's resins sales dipped last year due to the commercial operations of PRII. Aside from PVC resins, however, the company has four other product lines, namely: chlorine, caustic soda, sodium hypochloride and hydrochloric acid which have all been performing consistently well, even increasing in volume in the last three years.

MVC said it was expanding its chemical business and its depot all over the country despite concerns from some sectors that the lowering of tariffs on chlorine products would erode its profitability.

Chlorine accounts for 10 percent of the company's total sales.

There have been two special block sales of MVC shares last year. Metro Alliance Holdings Equities Corp., formerly the pharmaceutical firm Marsman Co., took a 20-percent equity in MVC. A few months after Metro Alliance's buy-in, Ayala-controlled Bank of the Philippine Islands sold its 22.68-percent stake in the company to Tosoh Corp.

Domestic demand for PVC slumped to a low of 65,000 tons in 1998 from 100,000 in 1997 due to the Asian financial crisis. Demand has since rebounded to between 80,000 and 90,000 in the last two years.

Philippine Resins said the new administration has led to a "renewed optimism" in the industry which should fuel the continued recovery of the market in the near to medium-term.

The planned expansion project should further bolster Philippine Resins' standing as one of the most competitive among PVC makers in the region. The company spent $1.2 million for the de-bottlenecking or just a fraction of its original investment of $55 million to $60 million.

With technology provided by its foreign shareholder, Tosoh Corp. of Japan, the factory boasts of a significant conversion cost advantage versus other smaller scale plants built several years ago.

PVC is used in construction for pipes, fittings, roofing and panels; in electrical works for wire and cable; and household and health sectors.

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

Top 10 commercial banks by deposits

(4th quarter 2000, in billion pesos)

Rank	Commercial Banks	Q4	Q3	% Change
1	Metropolitan Bank & Trust company	286.0	265.4	7.8
2	Bank of the Philippine Islands	250.8	232.2	8.0
3	Equitable-PCI Bank	176.6	167.8	5.2
4	Landbank	148.5	151.4	-1.9
5	Citibank	131.5	113.9	15.5
6	Philippine National Bank	123.4	138.0	-10.5
7	Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.	93.8	79.8	17.5
8	United Coconut Planters Bank	86.0	83.9	2.5
9	Allied Bank	70.6	79.2	-10.9
10	Banco de Oro	48.7	37.3	30.6

Source: Published statements of condition and BSP

In terms of deposits, Metrobank was still the number one bank as of the fourth quarter 2000. Following the completion of BPI's merger with Far East, the bank placed first in the second quarter before settling to number two in the third and fourth quarters last year. Equitable-PCIbank was still a strong third despite the negative reports it got in connection with the impeachment trial of former President Estrada.

Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

Meralco gets 25-year franchise in 2 towns

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE ENERGY Regulatory Board has given utility firm Manila Electric Co. a new 25-year franchise covering parts of Laguna and Rizal provinces.

A five-man panel said in a ruling that the franchise would allow Meralco to provide "continuous and efficient electric services at reasonable costs" to residents of Sta. Rosa, Laguna, and Pateros, Rizal.

Meralco, the country's biggest distributor of electricity, had been operating in these towns since 1962 until its franchise expired in 1997. Since then, the municipal boards of Sta. Rosa and Pateros have been issuing resolutions allowing Meralco to continue offerings its services in Sta. Rosa and Pateros. These resolutions would no longer be needed with Meralco's new franchise.

Meralco earns about P2 billion in earnings from its customers in Sta. Rosa and Pateros. It provides electricity to about 28,709 customers in Sta. Rosa, and 8,308 residential, 596 commercial and 13 industrial customers in Pateros.

Meralco has a total of 3.83 million customers in all its service areas in Luzon.

HSBC Corp. has reaffirmed its credit rating for Meralco, saying the company's credit profile has remained strong despite delays in its petition for a rates hike.

In a monthly assessment report, HSBC said the "high predictability ratio" of Meralco's cash flow provided an adequate "debt-service" cushion.

"The company's long-term debt equity and capital ratios were 25 percent and 20 percent, respectively, as of September. We are, however, puzzled that Meralco's operating expenses had outpaced the improvement in its operating revenues," the bank said.

Meralco reported a 31.3-percent year-on-year sales growth in the third quarter of last year on the back of a customer base growth of 4 percent to 3.637 million. This growth was, however, outpaced by a 33.2-percent rise in its operating expenses.

Merger of NBC, GMA-7 radio network seen

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. is expected to consolidate the radio operations of its affiliate Nation Broadcasting Corp. with GMA Network Inc. to avoid redundancy and increase efficiency.

Industry sources yesterday said the entry of the PLDT group into GMA-7, through the acquisition by its subsidiary Mediaquest of a 66.67-percent stake in the television network, would bring about some changes in the company.

PLDT president Manuel V. Pangilinan, in his visit to the GMA offices last week, said PLDT would look into the consolidation of the radio operations of GMA and NBC, said a source.

Pangilinan visited the GMA-7 premises on Friday to meet with the officers and employees of the company following the signing of the memorandum of agreement for the acquisition.

"The general perception was that he was very professional and very humble. He shared his plan of how GMA would fit into the convergence strategy of PLDT. Officers and employees liked him," said the source.

As a sign of good faith, Pangilinan allowed GMA-7 to use the facilities of PLDT such as microwave transmitters even before the closing of the acquisition deal.

SEC asks justice to pursue fraud charges vs Wincorp

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission is asking the justice department to pursue charges against Westmont Investment Corp.

Government regulators have accused Wincorp's directors and officers, including its former chair, John Espiritu, of violating the country's securities laws when they failed to register an investment scheme with the SEC.

The SEC accused Espiritu, son of former Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu, and Wincorp directors Henry Cua Loping, Simeon Cua, Manuel Tankiansee and Alfonso Reyno III of fraud for enticing about a thousand investors to place some P7 billion that Wincorp re-lent to companies owned by the younger Espiritu and his father's associates. These companies have defaulted on these loans.

In counter-affidavits filed with the Department of Justice, Espiritu and his directors claimed that they did not know about the investment scheme and could not be held liable for it.

They said "only corporate officers shown to have participated in or assented to the commission of the alleged illegal acts can be made answerable for alleged criminal violations of the corporation."

The SEC rejected this defense, saying those charged consented to the investment scheme.

"As responsible directors and/or officers, it is also their primary duty and responsibility to ensure that the operations of their company conformed with existing laws, rules and regulations," the commission said.

It insisted that the circumstances surrounding the questioned transactions, taken as a whole, suggested the commission of fraud.

Wincorp president and director Antonio Ong has admitted that Wincorp is 99 percent owned by Unioil Resources and Holdings Co. Inc. and that 82 percent of Unioil's stockholders are also borrowers of the company.

"Undeniably, the beneficial owners of respondent Wincorp are the very borrowers to which Wincorp lent the monies it collected from the unwitting investors. This definitely demonstrates that respondent Wincorp did not act on behalf of its investors but rather for the benefit of its beneficial owners," the SEC said.

DFNN.com buys 55.9% stake in IWI

DIVERSIFIED Financial Network Inc. or DFNN.com will acquire a majority stake in Intelligent Wave Inc. (IWI), a technology provider for financial institutions.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, DFNN.com, an application services provider, announced that it would acquire 55.94 percent of IWI. DFNN.com said the deal would give the company a niche in the international marketplace as a service provider to financial institutions.

DFNN.com is also a financial e-commerce solutions provider, financial portal and online stock trading firm.

The acquisition will be made through Singapore-based DFNN.com International Pte. Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of DFNN.com.

IWI is a P40-million solutions developer for high volume retail transactions, ATMs and POS. It also serves maintenance services to the Megalink network. It receives about 60 percent of its annual revenue from foreign sources.

DFNN.com also said its founder and significant shareholder Ramon Garcia Jr. had resigned as president and would take on the role as the company's executive chair.

DFNN has elected Benjamin Tiong as president/chief executive officer and director. Tiong, former president and corporate nominee for the Philippine operations of Singapore financial giant G.K. Goh, will also serve as president of DFNN International.

Tiong will focus on the company's strategic direction and operations while Garcia will focus on the company's strategic alliances and fundraising activities.

Last year, DFNN.com announced a tie-up with the Mittal group of India, the first of the company's series of expansion into Southeast Asia. The company is also planning to form a similar joint venture in Thailand and Indonesia.

Amy Bainbridge

DISCLOSURES

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. said that talks for the possible collaboration of Home Cable with the Lopez owned Sky Cable have not been abandoned but their priority now is to complete the acquisition of GMA 7.

* * *

VULCAN Industrial and Mining Corp. denied having any information that could have led to the increase in its share price that rose by 48 percent to P0.37 from P0.25 per share.

* * *

MABUHAY Vinyl Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on March 30 and fixed March 6 as record date for stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting.

* * *

MACONDRAY Plastics Inc. increased its authorized capital stock from P100 million to P400 million at a par value of P1 per share. The company repurchased P10 million of its shares from the open market at current market price. Also, the company scheduled its special stockholders' meeting on March 7, 10 a.m. at its principal office in Davao City.

* * *

UNION Bank moved its annual stockholders' meeting from May 25 to June 1 at 4 p.m.

* * *

MANILA Jockey Club Inc. disclosed that four hectares out of the company's 16 hectares in San Lazaro, Manila, will be developed into a shopping area and that a new subsidiary corporation shall be created to own the segregated property.

* * *

MUSIC Corp. confirmed that its subsidiary Music.com.Inc. acquired 100 percent of the capital stock of music portal Xudio.com for 0.9 percent of Music.com's equity on a share for share deal. *Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research*

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Tuesday, February 13, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	6,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	71	71	70	70	357,700
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	55	55	55	55	20,500
First E-Bank Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	8,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	232	234	232	234	5,730
Philippine National Bank	36	36	35.5	35.5	105,600
Phil. Savings Bank	28	30	28	30	2,300
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.72	1.72	1.7	1.72	621,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.39	0.4	0.39	0.4	80,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1290	1310	1290	1310	2,380
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	15,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1110	1130	1110	1130	9,090
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	50	50.5	50	50	45,500
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.78	0.78	0.74	0.75	2,230,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	710	710	700	700	6,960
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.06	0.06	0.055	0.055	11,200,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	310,000
Piltel	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	540,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	900	900	875	875	39,730
Ivantage Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.08	1.1	626,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.08	0.08	0.075	0.08	165,800,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	56	56	55.5	56	86,200
Manila Electric Co. B	64.5	64.5	63	63.5	992,400
Petron Corp.	2.02	2.02	1.96	1.98	2,200,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06	74,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.4	1.4	1.36	1.36	1,665,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.59	0.59	0.58	0.59	170,000
Negros Navigation Co.Inc.	0.21	0.24	0.21	0.22	4,810,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.54	0.54	0.54	0.54	300,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.86	0.87	0.86	0.87	90,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2	2	2	2	3,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	11.5	11.5	11.25	11.5	171,600
La Tondena Distillersinc.	38.5	39.5	38.5	39	577,700
RFM Corp.	1.22	1.4	1.22	1.38	11,224,000
San Miguel Corp. A	51	51.5	50.5	51	138,900
San Miguel Corp. B	62.5	62.5	62	62.5	283,800
Universal Robina Corp.	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	894,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.49	0.5	0.39	0.5	210,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.56	0.57	0.56	0.57	20,000
Ayala Corp.	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.4	1,286,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	80,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.68	1.68	1.68	1.68	110,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	12.5	12.5	12.25	12.25	1,500
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	1.06	1.08	1.06	1.08	301,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	50,000
APC Group Inc.	0.23	0.235	0.23	0.235	10,000,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	10,000,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	2	2	2	2	57,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	0.38	0.45	0.38	0.45	530,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.26	0.28	0.26	0.28	6,690,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	3.3	3.35	3.25	3.3	6,059,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.19	0.2	0.19	0.2	1,410,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	20,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.58	0.58	0.57	0.57	110,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	500,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.32	1.34	2,158,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	26.5	26.5	24.75	26	542,500
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	20,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.39	0.39	0.38	0.38	460,000
Guoco Holdings (Phils.)	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.28	30,000
Ionics Inc.	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	15,700
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	785,000
Macroasia Corp.	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	10,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	1,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.97	0.97	0.94	0.96	3,540,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	10,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.69	0.69	0.67	0.67	5,990,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.83	0.83	0.78	0.8	2,580,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.41	0.42	0.4	0.41	2,840,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	60,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.35	0.38	0.35	0.37	570,000
Zeus Holdings Inc.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	10,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Corro-Coat Inc.	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	15,000
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp.	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4	12,000
Macondray Plastics Inc.	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.7	14,000
Music Corp.	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.3	127,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.72	0.82	0.72	0.79	2,120,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	540,000
Reynolds Philippine Corp.	0.18	0.225	0.18	0.2	1,200,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.97	20,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	12	12	11.75	12	61,700
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.67	0.67	0.65	0.65	2,150,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.77	0.83	0.76	0.82	28,170,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.73	0.74	0.69	0.72	2,130,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	51	51	50.5	50.5	260,100
Ayala Corp. Pref.	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	20,000
Equitable PCI Bank-War	3.45	3.45	3.35	3.4	96,000
Globe Tel. A - Warrants	530	530	530	530	100
Jollibee Warrants	11	11	11	11	6,200
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	78,000,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.75	10.75	10.75	10.75	900
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,500
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
Waterfront Phils-Warrant	0.07	0.075	0.07	0.075	400,000
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	5,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.8	12,899,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.39	0.39	300,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.49	0.49	0.44	0.44	120,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.36	3,900,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	10,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.45	0.46	4,490,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.85	2.85	2.7	2.8	5,265,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.2	0.215	0.19	0.2	4,020,000
Mrc Allied Ind. Inc.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	20,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.125	0.14	0.125	0.14	1,430,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.1	7.1	7	7	12,369,000
Universal Rightfield Prop	0.13	0.13	0.125	0.13	1,410,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	29,000,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	12,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	600,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	70,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	10,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	15,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0048	0.005	0.0048	0.005	103,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	1,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	300,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.03	0.03	0.029	0.029	2,200,000
Interport Res. B	0.007	0.0075	0.007	0.0075	19,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	21,000,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	4,000,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.26	0.28	0.26	0.26	370,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	1,233,300	45,901,580.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	397,885,490	314,326,560.00
PRO	46,233,000	193,792,800.00
Mining	148,992,000	967,500.00
OIL	46,570,000	812,500.00
GRAND TOTALS :	640,913,790	555,800,940.00

AVERAGES			
Banks & Fin Svc	618.08	DOWN	5.83
Comm'l & Ind'l	2,319.44	DOWN	26.69
PRO	646.73	DOWN	9.04
Mining	1,317.60	UP	6.83
OIL	1.98	UNCH	0.00
All Shares Index	819.84	DOWN	1.43
Composite	1,692.27	DOWN	19.79

NO. OF ADVANCES: 37; NO. OF DECLINES: 41; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 46; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 124; NO. OF TRADES: 3,827

CURRENCIES

"Feb. 13, 2001"

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.073307	1.000000	48.1400
Japan	Yen	0.009141	0.008517	0.4100
United Kingdom	Pound	1.559300	1.452800	69.9378
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.137617	0.128218	6.1724
Switzerland	Franc	0.649309	0.604961	29.1228
Canada	Dollar	0.705658	0.657462	31.6502
Singapore	Dollar	0.614969	0.572967	27.5826
Australia	Dollar	0.577450	0.538010	25.8998
Bahrain	Dinar	2.847119	2.652661	127.6991
Kuwait	Dinar	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.286231	0.266681	12.8380
Brunei	Dollar	0.613143	0.571265	27.5007
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000113	0.000105	0.0051
Thailand	Baht	0.025230	0.023507	1.1316
UAE	Dirham	0.292255	0.272294	13.1082
Korea	Won	0.000849	0.000791	0.0381
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.931700	44.8520
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.476371	22.9325
France	Franc	0.152450	0.142037	6.8377
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.422787	20.3530
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.067709	3.2595
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.023096	1.1118
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000481	0.0232
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.156701	7.5436
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004647	0.2237
Spain	Peseta	0.006011	0.0056	0.2696
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.023096	1.1118
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.183015	56.9503

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES

Official Depository Bank of the Republic of the Philippines

2nd INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

All suppliers registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and with extensive experience in the Design, Supply and Installation of Sewage Treatment Plant for high rise office buildings, first class hotels or projects of identical scope, are invited to apply for pre-qualification and to bid for Contract Package 22: Design, Supply and Installation of Sewage Treatment Plant for the new LBP HQ. Building in Ermita, Manila, with the following schedule:

Project Title	Estimated Cost	Issuance of Pre-C	Issuance of Notice of Prequalification/ Predisqualification	Issuance of Bid Docs	Pre-Bid	Bidding Date
Contract Package No. 22: Design, Supply and Installation of Sewage Treatment Plant	Php 28 Million	February 16 to 19, 2001 10:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.	March 2, 2001	March 8, 2001 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.	March 12, 2001 10:00 A.M.	March 15, 2001 9:00 A.M.

Interested suppliers may obtain Pre-C application forms from the Project Management and Engineering Department (PMED), 2F LBP Bldg. 3, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City upon payment of a non-refundable processing fee of P 1,000.00.

Duly accomplished Pre-qualification Statements (Pre-C) shall be submitted to the above-stated office not later than **February 27, 2001** after which no Pre-C will be accepted. All participating suppliers shall be notified in writing of their pre-qualification/or pre-disqualification.

Only pre-qualified suppliers may secure Bid Documents at the PMED Office on the above-stated dates, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P 1,000.00.

Pre-bid conference will be held on the above-stated date and time at the FMGSG Room, 2nd Flr. LBP Building 3, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.

Bidding shall be conducted at the same venue as the Pre-Bid conference, using the two (2) sealed envelope system (*envelopes "A & B"*) to be submitted to and received at the PMED Office on the above stated bidding date and time, after which no envelopes will be received.

The Bank reserves the right to change the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference, submission of bids and the bidding date. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBP to pre-qualified bidders.

The Bank likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the Bank.

(Sgd.) GILDA E. PICO
Chairman
LBP Sub-Commitee on the LBP HQ Plaza

(PDI--Feb. 10, 11 & 14, 2001)

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Time : 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Venue : Makati Shangri-La (Makati Rm.) Makati Ave. cor. Ayala Ave., Makati City
Fee : P700(pre-paid) , P900 (walk-in)
Tel : 891-5686 to 89,891-5920 to 21

CEBU SEMINAR (4 countries in 1 Seminar)
Date February 21,2001(Wednesday)
Time 4:00 p.m.
Venue . Cebu MidTown Hotel, F. Ramos St., Cebu City
Fee : P700(pre-paid) ; P1,000 (walk-in)
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DAVAO SEMINAR (4 countries in 1 Seminar)
Date : February 24,2001(Saturday)
Time : 10:00 a.m.
Venue : The Apo View Hotel, 150 J. Camus St., Davao City
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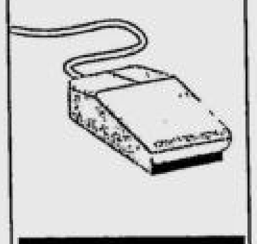

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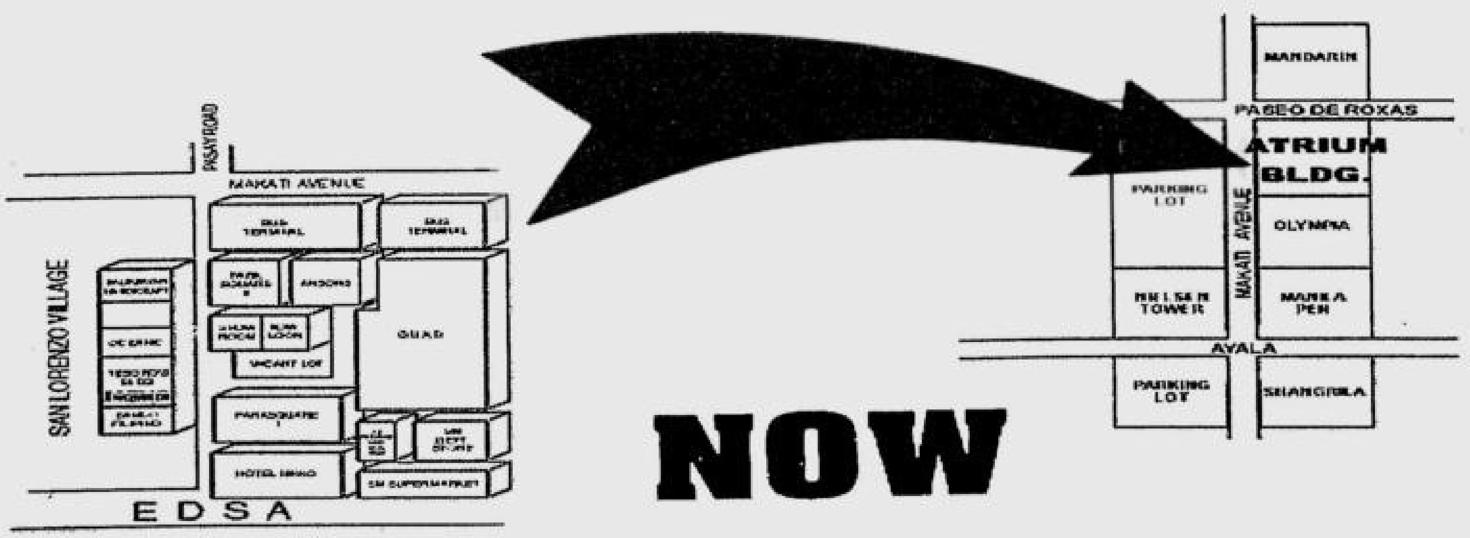

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TRiViA

By BONG BARRAMEDA

Valentine card

Q. Who sent the first valentine card?

A. The grand-daddy of the modern Valentine card was sent in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was a prisoner of war in the Tower of London. The hand-painted cover showed a prince and a flower-bearing maiden, with Cupid overhead, shooting an arrow at the prince's chest. The inside contained romantic verses. The card is now in the British Museum. The first real valentines – that is, greeting cards specially for the holiday – did not appear until the 18th century in England and Germany. Also rising to the occasion at about the same time was a British book titled "The Young Man's Valentine Writer," which contained scores of suggested sentimental verses for the young lover unable to compose his own.

For the Record. Courtship is by no means solely a human preoccupation. Giraffes rub their noses together during courtship, fireflies flash light signals, the male stickleback fish swims a zig-zag dance and shows off his red belly to the female, mole crickets dig out burrows to amplify their love calls, the male and female of the African bird called boubou shrike sing duets, while the female two-lined salamander will not mate until the male bites her back.

Past Forward. This day in 1975: The Philippine Heart Center for Asia was inaugurated in Quezon City to coincide with Valentine's Day.

WORD WATCH

Anaxaphilia (an aks i fil i-uh) : the act of falling in love with the wrong person by someone who ought to know better.

PDI – February 14, 2001

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Notice is given that the estate of the late **ERNESTO P. GALANG** was extrajudicially settled w/absolute sale among his heirs under Doc. #9726; Page 92; Book 31; Series 2001 of Atty. Danilo B. Banares, Notary Public of Makati City.
(PDI- Feb. 7, 14, & 21, 2001)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that ACR No. E059734 under the name of **MARI JANE AKARURU** was lost. *(PDI-Feb. 7, 14 & 21, 2001)*

Notice is hereby given that Stock Certificate No. 419 comprising 41,833 shares of the Philippine Daily Inquirer issued in the name of **Excel Equities, Inc.** has been declared lost and the same is hereby cancelled.
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San Antonio Vill. 2Stry 100sqm w/Grge 870-8447

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Grnind bnew 3br 2M 9487112

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600m^2 5stry Bldg. & Whse Samat St. SMH QC 9281469

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Joann 912-5775 •

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2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

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Pre-Sch. Tcher w/Knowledge on L.D.&Sped Call Dr. Umali Tel#s 723-5265; 721-9227 / 28

Wanted MIDWIVES
De Ocampo Memorial
Medical Center Pls Call 7151891-94
Look for Ms. Edna Calacal

MALE/FEMALE

ADM./FIELD STAFF
Female, can work with min. supervision, can handle assigned task inside or outside the office. Apply at: FOOD-WORLD MFG. CORP., 292 8th Ave. (East), Kal. City 9 a.m. to 12N only

CARE GIVER T-5280722

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LICID Nurse needed Call 9249935

Office Staff 913-4470 Sol

URGENT OFFICE STAFF CALL MR JOSE AT 7366660

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: P.,
ROSES ARE RED, VIOLETS ARE BLUE. IF YOU THINK THIS IS SAPPY WAIT 'TILL YOU SEE WHAT'S ON PAGE 2...

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

TELEMARKETING 2477469

BANGUS ONLINE
Open for dealership
http:/bonuanboneless@safeshopper.com 932-8059

•EARN FR HOME 8531008•

PR/ Publicity 931-7317

ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be informed of our new classified advertising rates effective **February 1, 2001 issue.**

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS
(National Edition)
Box Ad - P230.00/col. cm.
Line Ad - P 65.00/line
Obituaries - P230.00/col. cm.

JOB MARKET
(Metro Manila Edition)
Box Ad - P190.00/col. cm.

Color Surcharge for NC and JM
1 spot color - 30%
2 spot color - 60%
Full color - 80%

CLASSIFIED ASSETS
Box Ad - P190.00/col. cm.
- No color surcharge

* Rates are VAT exclusive

Want to Advertise?

You don't need to leave your place to advertise in Inquirer. Simply cut and fill-out this form and FAX it to an Inquirer Classified Ads branch nearest you.

Advertiser ____________________
Address ____________________
Tel. number ____________________

Check Line Ad classification:

☐ Recruitment
☐ For Sale
☐ For Rent
☐ Announcements
☐ Auction
☐ Personal

Date of Issue ________ Sub-classification ________

Write your ad on the given squares. Each square represents a letter, a punctuation and an ad space between words of your ad. Indicate the price and telephone number.

Rate:P71.50 per line (Monday to Sunday) Deadline: 12:00 noon day before

We accept credit cards (Visa or MasterCard) and bank-to-bank payments.

☐ Charge it to my Credit Card.(indicate the following:)
1. Card Type ________ Number ________
2. Expiry Date ________ Birthdate ________
3. Last 3 digits of the numbers (Found at the back of your card) ________
4. Signature — ________

☐ Bank-to-Bank Payment
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2. Landbank
3. Metrobank
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Please confirm faxed ad.

For inquiries, please call:

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QUEZON CITY: [illegible]
MANILA: [illegible]
MANDALUYONG: [illegible]
ALABANG: [illegible]

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ESSENTIAL SEMINAR
on Feb. 17, 2001
at Dusit Hotel Mktl
FOR THOSE WHO INTEND TO WORK ABROAD
Phone: 891 5602 & 891 5632

JEWELRY NO CAPITAL CONSIGN Term Must be Employed 2778166

RTW Factory Price 7299681

TRAVEL OPPOR 893-7903

TShirt Fac.Price 4383147

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late **ERNESTO P. GALANG** was extrajudicially settled w/absolute sale among his heirs under Doc. #9726; Page 92; Book 31; Series 2001 of Atty. Danilo B. Banares, Notary Public of Makati City.
(PDI- Feb. 7, 14, & 21, 2001)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that ACR No. E059734 under the name of **MARI JANE AKARURU** was lost. *(PDI-Feb. 7, 14 & 21, 2001)*

Notice is hereby given that Stock Certificate No. 419 comprising 41,833 shares of the Philippine Daily Inquirer issued in the name of **Excel Equities, Inc.** has been declared lost and the same is hereby cancelled.
(PDI- Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 2001)

PERA
Linggo-Linggo

Batching System
Period Covered:
Feb. 01 - 07, 2001
B-1 P 2,439.50/Unit
B-2 P 215.25/Unit

TGS Incentives
Group 28
Covering the period:
Feb. 01-07, 2001

Group	1-3	P 81.10/Unit
Group	4	P 56.80/Unit
Group	5	P 45.80/Unit
Group	6	P 45.50/Unit
Group	7	P 40.10/Unit
Group	8	P 34.90/Unit
Group	9	P 33.00/Unit
Group	10	P 31.30/Unit
Group	11-12	P 21.60/Unit
Group	13-14	P 18.90/Unit
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Group	19	P 11.90/Unit
Group	20-21	P 10.00/Unit

FOR SUBSCRIBERS

TriNet
578-8398 / 578-8399
Fax 535-0652

PERSONAL

THANK YOU MAMA MARY

To Papa Edward,
Thank you for being there always!
I LOVE YOU VERY MUCH!!!
Happy Valentines!
Love, Base

Diana (Ah-sao),

Just a note
to say
"I Love U"

Love,
MikeO

Lion
8 infinity
Fish

Valentine Greetings

Rachee

I love you for enjoying simple pleasures in life.
I love your adventurous persona -- always ready to indulge in new experiences.
I love your beauty -- it's radiant and innocent like the sun.
I love your passion for the truth -- always curious... always honest...
I love your virtues of humility and obedience -- a true reflection of your chinese heritage.
I love the way you ask yourself endless questions that sometimes brings tears to your eyes.
I love your KKK (Kasungitan, Kakuriputan at Kaartehan) -- I've learned to accept them through the years.
I love your love for kids -- it's an external manifestation of your inner child.
I love your uniqueness -- a rare gem that is priceless (no visa or mastercard can buy)
I love you for unknown reasons only the heart can comprehend.

-madly inlove poet

To the GREATEST MOM....

Happy Valentine's Day!

from
the 4 "makulit" but very loving
men in your life...

GIO

MICO

ROCKY

... and DAD

Abby de Guzman,
Just to say "We Love You" as often said before -- but with every year that passes, we just love you more and more!

Love,
Daddy & Mommy
Nato Beng

Dear Pinky,
You said yes to be my wife,
You said yes to be the mother of my child,
You said yes to stay with me forever.
And for all that, I love you.
Thank you for loving me too.
Arnel

YEN,
I LOVE YOU!
PAKASAL NA TAYO.
WILL YOU MARRY ME?
SHANE

DEAR TWINKIE,
I'M SO GLAD WE FOUND EACH OTHER! HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! I LOVE YOU VERY MUCH! FROM YOUR WIFE-TO-BE, JENNY

Happy Valentines Mommy MEL from your sweetheart, Dennis E. Legaspi, U.P.

OLIVER DE LEON OF SVI HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! Luv You, Honey

DEAREST GOLD,
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
WE LOVE YOU
ALAN, STEPHEN & BIANCA

MOMMY GLORIA
I ❤ U
Daddy Peping

Lucy,
I love you with all my heart! Happy Valentine's Day!
- Jerome -

Happy Valentine's Day to Monaliza, Stardust, Gelene, Sharon, Kringkring, DingDong, Auntie Linda.
From Uncle Michael & Auntie Corina

Hi, there!
Just want you to know how much you mean to me. You brought me so much happiness. Thank you for coming into my life.
Happy Valentines Day ❤
XOXO,
Acer

To P.
ROSES ARE RED, VIOLETS ARE BLUE, IF YOU THINK THIS IS SAPPY WAIT TIL YOU SEE WHAT'S ON PAGE 2

Michael,
Thank you for loving and taking good care of me all these years. I will always love you!!! Happy Valentines Day!
Love, Corina❤

Jasmine, Proud to tell everyone how much I Love You - Richie

Jowell,
My sweetheart,
HAPPY VALENTINE!
Love, *Candy*

Just a surprisE foR you to knoW that I'm IN LovE with you. And tHat i'm happy to be your girl.
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

Marielle Libunao,
Don't know where I'm getting all the hope & love in my heart...I still believe in us 2geder! ***I Love U***
-Honey

Minyum,
Just to tell you and the whole world how much
I LOVE YOU.
Owen

PATRICK,
Why say more when all I want u to know is...**I LOVE YOU!** and that I am so proud to have you in my life. It is worth my existence. ***Happy Hearts Day, honey!***
-Christine

PURE,
I STILL CARE SO MUCH ABOUT YOU.
HAPPY HEART'S DAY!!!
AD

THANK YOU MAMA MARY

To: Ebeth Alquizola
HAPPY VALENTINE'S
Love, Rene Batman

To: Lolong V. Yulit
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY 143
From: nakakaasar of Cebu

Dearest Dad Raymond,
For a very special MAN who deserves the best of everything.
Happy Valentine's!
Your loving wife (Kit) & Kids (Kevin, Lanz & E.R.)

Glenda Terrenal
I LOVE YOU!
MARRY ME!!!
Ronnie Aguilar

Dearest Daddy,
Thank you very much for all the caring and love you've given me.
Love,
Connie

DR. JESUSA SUSIE CARONAN WE LOVE YOU PROV. 31: 29-30 FR: DADDY, JOJO, DEXTER & AISA

OAO
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY VALENTINE! I LOVE YOU SO MUCH -- BOSS

HAPPY VALENTINES PCS 74 DELA TORRE FAMILY - ALBERT

IT TOOK A WHILE, BUT YOU SURE ARE WORTH MY WAIT, TIBOY DE SALES. - PANGGA

ROW HAPPY VALENTINE SPEL FRIEND - TC

MAMA,
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY I LOVE YOU!
CARLO

MIKE GARCIA OF PHILIP MORRIS You will always be my valentine. Love & Kisses, Peanut butter

DENISSON CATIMPO OF LAS PIÑAS Happy Heart's Day

MINETTE,
ALWAYS THINK WHAT I'M DOING IS FOR ALL OF US LUV U NEH - WINKIE

HAPI VALENTINES TO RHI OFCRS & STAFF

KATHERINE V. REYNO WITH YOU AS MY VALENTINE THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO WISH FOR - NOEL C.

MY WIFE (**TESS HUERTO**) HAPI VALENTINE'S DAY TO SOME1 HU GIVES MY HEART SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT - I LOVE YOU! **PA**

RHEA (MAHAL)
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE D ONLY WOMAN IN MY LIFE!
I LOVE YOU! - EGAY

JENNY, YOU'RE THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME - LUV U - **CHAY**

MARIE LEN
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
ABE

TAJ,
LAV DAZ NT END WEN WE DNT C EACH ADER... T GROWS DPER! HAPI HARTS DAY & BL8D HAPI BDAY TO US!
AISHTERU, TAJI

It's no fun without you, JAC!
Wish we could be together for Valentine's Day.
You know how much I Love you...
HAPPY VALENTINE!
TIM

BERNARDINE,
Good friends are like Valentine chocolates. It is what inside that makes them special.
Thanks for all your moral support. You're really a true friend.
HAPPY HEARTS' DAY!!!
JEANETTE

If longing to hear you is crazy, wanting to see you is foolish and needing to be with you is insane, then call me crazy, foolish and insane but not my love for you because it is sincere and true!

Happy 2nd Anniversary
Rommel Abary Maquito!

Your Sweetheart,
Margarette Cruz Bagsit

Nanay Nene,
Happy Valentine's Day!
We Love You!
Ed, Bendinne, IB, Ish, Kwik, Dianne

Kooch K (KTC) =);

*I want to reassure you that I love you "with a commitment 2 trust, 2 care, 2 stand by your side, and 2 take one more step when all strength is gone... 2 love you without conditions." =)**

*Happy Valentine's Day! =)**

Kooch m (msj) =)*

Daging,
IKAW LANG ANG PINALANGGA NINING AKONG DUGHAN...
BANCHO

My Dearest Vi,
The mystery and the wait and, most important, the yearning for atonement were finally over.
Happy Valentine!
Love
Nar

Tin-Tin,
In this love day
Finding ways
To keep in touch
With the heaven sent lady
Is a thing my heart
Love to obey
HAPPY VALENTINES
Your angel's mate,
Gary J.

VALENTINE GREETINGS TO:
Marriolle Dionisio & her friends
Charisma Alegre
Michelle Aquino
Anna Marie Bermillo
L.A. Cardenas
&
J.R. Welan Pascua
of
Mapua Institute of Technology

Daddy Ed Abad,
Please hold on to GOD. He will grant our greatest wish in due time. ❤
The kids & I are always here for you.
We love you very much. ❤
Jed, Ena & Nanette

ROWELITO "WENGKY" PANELO
Happy Valentines Day!!!
For the man "**I LOVE SO MUCH**" I want the whole world to know how special you mean to me,
I MISS YOU!!!
- SHE

Erick,
Happy Valentine's Day to a non-believer. Forgive me for being hopelessly romantic.
I love you,
Jig

Dearest ANET,
Thank you for loving us & taking care of us. we love you,
Miggoy, Kongkong, King

Everdearest Jean,
The most precious gift God gave me and that is YOU the LOVE OF MY LIFE.
Much Love,
Jimmy

Everlovable, dearest Luzette,
That's why darling it's incredible, that someone so unforgettable, thinks that I am unforgettable too. I love you.
P.S. Will you marry me?☺
Erich

Leah and Kids,
Happy Valentine's
Love,
Daddy Kenny

Ranel,
LOVE DWELLS IN THE HEART OF SOMEONE DESTINED TO KEEP IT.
I LOVE YOU.
LIZA

Happy Valentines to my wife Maris and
Happy Birthday to my lovely daughter Darla Faye
I LOVE YOU!
Darwin

Sheridan,
❤Everybody needs somebody -- Im glad my somebody is you!
Hulsey

Everdearest Oly & Gale,
Life has never been this complete for me just by seeing the beauty in you inside & out.
"Happy Valentines"
—ERIC

VILMA,
I LIKE YOU!
LOVE,
RJ

To **LYN**
HAPPY VALENTINES
We Love You!!!
Lanz & Rading

ANN,
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY TO SOMEONE WHO GIVES MY HEART SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT ALL YEAR LONG.
ALBERT

HANSEL,
Destiny decides who you meet in life but it is your heart can decide who gets to stay in your life.
I Love You Honey,
GRETEL

Dearest Lola Cherry,
Thank you for loving us & taking care of us.
we love you,
Mikah & Miggy F.

SWEETHEART GINA,
I LOVE YOU FOREVER!
JAMES

BABYLUF
Just to say *"I LOVE U"* as I've often said in the past 8 years --- But with every year that passes. I Just Love You more and more!
Love You,
ANGEL

Xangie,
Just to say "I LOVE YOU" as i've often said before -- But with every year that passes, I just love you more and more!
Happy Valentines Dear!
Adjong

To my family who has inspired me through the years

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Love & Prayers,
Hazel

KAREN,

I have set my heart to no other woman.
Thank you for giving me a chance to love you!
I LOVE YOU!
"RHOEL"

To the love of my life

To My Darling Baby,

I Love You. Three little words that mean so much yet seem so say to little. The way I feel about you, need other words, bigger words, words that don't get used so often.

I need a word for the heart bursting joy that set my head spinning whenever I think of you. I need another for the warm ocean of contentment I feel lapping around me when I think of the years we will have together in the future, and another for the determination I feel when I think of you – determination to make you so happy, you will be mine forever. And words for the desire you raise in me..

But the only words I have are "I Love You".

I Love You! With all my heart and soul.

Forever yours
Oliver

MAMA TEH,
We will always Love You.
Happy VALENTINE'S DAY
Papa & Ardel

EVELYN,
TO THE PERSON WHO STOLE MY HEART.
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
JEROME

Luca,
We are so overwhelmed with joy and happiness that you came into our lives.

Happy First Valentine!
Dad and Mom

To Someone Special
You are the light of my life, you have guided me in everything that I have done in my life.
HAPPY VALENTINE
My Dearest Mother
Love
Oliver Lim

To CYNTHIA PAULINO
HAPPY VALENTINES
We Love You!!!
Daddy, Ar-Ar, Francis, Len-Jay, Tata & Zaza

Dear JACKO,
"Love does not consist in gazing at each other, but in looking outward together in the same direction". *Antoine Saint-Exupery*
MISS YOU.
CSS

Beng De Guzman,

Happy Valentine's Day
to someone who gives my heart something to smile about all year long.
I LOVE YOU AND I WILL GROW OLD WITH YOU!
Renato

Shela "Gieo" Banchee,
Surprise!
Happy Hearts Day!
HARI

ABDON,
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
I LOVE YOU!
CALEEN

Mama Bendinne,

WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH!
Happy Hearts Day!
Papa, IB, Ish, Kwik, Dianne

BREA

REGIONAL MANAGERS OF THE YEAR

Eliezer G.Dayanghirang
Davao Region

Flora T. Tayo
Metro Manila Region 3
1st Runner-up

Efren I. Arnaldo
Metro Manila Region 1
2nd Runner-up

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Davao Region

Elizabeth DL. Tan
Las Piñas/MMR 3
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Olive Coloma
Baguio
2nd Runner-up

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Macabuhay L. Tayo, MDRT*
Zamboanga/MMR3

Virginia A. Ardina, MDRT*
SF-La Union
1st Runner-up

Lo
Bin
2nd

ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

FYC LEADER OF THE YEAR

CASE COUNT LEADER OF THE YEAR

SSI DECS MVP

SSI DEC

Caroline T. Chua
Binondo/MMR. 2

Karen V. Yepez
Tacloban
1st Runner-up

Lily Sy Chua
Binondo/MMR2

Gamelin L. Sevilleno
Quezon Ave/MMR 1
1st Runner-up

Rolando N. Villalon, MDRT
Tacloban

Virginia A. Ardina, MDRT*
SF-La Union

Rolando N. Villalon, MDRT
Tacloban

Gloria A
Bana

MANAGERS LEAGUE

Eliezer G. Dayanghirang
Davao Region

Flora T. Tayo
Metro Manila. Region 3

Efren I. Arnaldo
Metro Manila Region 1

Nicomedes O. Triñanes
Metro Manila Region 2

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Rolando N. Villalon, MDRT
Tacloban

Blesilda V. Relampagos
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Lolita Tanio
Binondo/MMR 2

Roderick P. Romero
Calamba/MMR 3

Ricarda DL. Medina
Las Piñas/MMR 3

Zenra I. Masamayor
Quezon Ave 1/MMR 1

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Davao Region

Azucena M. Dayanghirang
Davao Region

Elizabeth DL. Tan
Las Piñas/MMR 3

Emmeline A. Langomez
Commonwealth/MMR 1

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Roderick P. Romero
Calamba / MMR 3

Eduardo DG. Madina
Las Piñas / MMR 3

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Davao Region

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Lily Sy. Chua
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Nicomedes O. Triñanes
Makati 1B / Mmr2

Hope Lorena F. Go
Dumaguete

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Quezon Ave 1/ MMR1

Narcisa S. Clores
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Gamelin L. Sevilleno
Quezon Ave. 1 / MMR 1

Elizabeth C. Aguinaldo
Banawe / MMR 2

Zenra I. Masarpayor
Quezon Ave. 1 / MMR 1

Ma

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Baguio

Socorro G. Santos
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Romelia G. Obeso
Makati 1 E / MMR1

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Violeta S. Abad
Dagupan Region

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Roxas

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Davao Region

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Cebu 1

Benjamin G. Santos
Quezon Ave. 2.

Vicente T. Mengullo
Tacloban

Maria Constance U. de G
Makati 1D / MMR 2

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SF- La Union

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Binondo / MMR 2

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Quezon Ave.1 / MMR1

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Ortigas 2A/MMR 4

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Baguio

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Baguio

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Cebu 1

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Makati 1 B/MMR 2

Romelia G. Obeso
Makati 1E / MMR 1

Nanette C. Reguera
Commonwealth / MMR 1

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Davao Region

Pablo Brando B. Suazo
Davao Region

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ROOK

Casasola
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Gloria A. Casasola
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Socorro Q. Hipolito
Makat 1A / MMR2

Norberto B. Obeso
Makati 1 E / MMR1

Paul M. Martinez
Bacolod

Jesus Wilfrido S. Bolaños
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uzman

Jocelyn A. Sumabat
Makati 1B/ MMR2

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Makati 1 D/MMR 2

Cornelia T. Cahatol
Cagayan De Oro Region

Carina G. Santos
Quezon Ave. 2

Lilia F. Agayam
Zamboanga / MMR 3

* Met the 2001 MDRT production requirements.

B R O N Z E

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Davao Region

Bobby L. Ranalan
Davao Region

Irene R. Garcia
mmonwealth / MMR1

Maslene Belo Ring
Roxas/Iloilo 2

abuhay L. Tayo, MDRT*
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Quezon Ave. 1/MMR 1

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Jesus Wilfrido S. Bolaños
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Nenita R. Milana
Davao Region

Nelita F. Mendoza
Davao Region

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the joys, the tears...
the Celebration of Life,
with you through the years...
there will never be a greater
blessing than you, Mom...
*for you truly are the **wind beneath our wings***
the fulfillment of all that Love can ever bring.

Josephine (Josie) Marquez-Malixi

*Peacefully joined her loving husband **Godofredo "Dô"***
and went home to our God Almighty
on Monday, February 12, 2001
at the age of 73.

Her beloved children **Peggy** & **Douglas Leong**, **Sonny** & **Mary Ann**, **Annette**, **David** & **Puri**, **Joel**, **Jay-Jay**; grandchildren **Gio**, **Mico**, & **Rocky**; **Tammie**, **Mikee**, & **Mark**; parents Tony (✞) & Tita (✞); brothers, sisters & in-laws Wally (✞) & Mary, Albert & Nena, Mameng & Teddy (✞) Henares, Mary Lou & Fred Bulahan, George (✞) & Stella, Sony & Joep van Arendonk, Toby & Carol Ann, Rosie & Nonong (✞) Bulahan, Danny & Kay.

Her remains lie in state at the Capilla Dela Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio Parish, McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Funeral Mass shall be held on Saturday, February 17, 2001 at 11:00 a.m. at the Capilla Dela Virgen followed by Cremation services at 3:00 p.m. at the Crematorium of the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City.

Our Dearly Beloved **PAPA TOM**

TOMAS M. DE GUZMAN

of Bauang, La Union

has joined the company of his Creator on February 10, 2001.

His bereaved wife **Luz Zarate**; children & children-in-law **Prudencio** (✞) & **Brenda**, **Tomas Jr.** & **Ma. Lourdes Poniente**, **Edward** & **Ma. Guia Salinas**, **Paul** & **Ma. Leticia Abesamis**, **Martin** & **Ma. Christine Serrano**, **Luz Lourdes**, **Isabelita** & **Dominique Ocliasa**, **Felicia** & **Eric De La Vega**, **Stephen** & **Robyn Joy Imperial**, **Caesar** & **Heidi Colet**; **Lourdes Carbonell**; grandchildren **Peaches** & **Tonski**; **Mika**, **Chi-Chi** & **TJ**; **Paola**, **Kevin** & **Kyle**; **Chloe**; **Marko**; **Sam**; **Colleen** & **Paolo**; **Justin**; **Santino**; brothers & sisters-in-law **Eulogio Jr.** & **Zita Pulido**, **Romeo** (✞) & **Redempta Sanchez**, **Antonio** & **Ana Maria Gregorio**, **Joselito** & **Petronila Palo**; nephews, nieces, cousins, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapel, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. Holy Masses will be offered every 7:00 p.m.

Interment will be on Saturday, February 17, 2001 at Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at the Arlington Memorial Chapel.

MARCOS R. VEGA

of Los Baños, Laguna

Peacefully joined his Creator on
February 11, 2001 at the age of 67.

His bereaved wife **Tenny**; children **Joey** & **Tess**, **Phil** & **Gigi**, **Chuchi** & **Jo**; grandchildren **Martin**, **Paolo**, **Migo**, **Rafael**, **Meredith**, **Regina** & **Julia**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to offer prayers for his soul.

His remains lie in state at his residence #2136 Kayumanggi Street, Collegeville Subdivision, Los Baños, Laguna.

Interment will be announced later.

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

Rogelio Joaquin Cenzon

passed away on February 13, 2001
at the age of 65.

His bereaved wife **Malu**; children **Yvonne**, **Shirley** and **Maxim Gie**; grandchildren **Don**, **Emil**, **Bea**, **Jefri**, **Matthew** and **Miguel**; brothers and sisters **Nads** and **Baby**, **Leony** and **Gonnie**, **Josie** and **Peping**, **Perla** and **Rudy**, **Bishop Otto**, **Ed** and **Nitz**, **Zeny** and **Lito**, **Larry** and **Cynthia**, **Raffy** and **Leni**; nephews and nieces, relatives and friends, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment is tentatively scheduled for the afternoon of February 15, 2001.

Our beloved tatay

MANUEL A. ADORIO

April 31, 1918 - February 7, 2001
Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord.

His loving wife **Esperanza**; bereaved children **Mercedes**, **Daniel**, **Rebecca**, **Leah**, **Freah**, **Ernesto**, **Cecilia** and **Robert Court**, **Lynette** and **Samuel Arce** (†); grandchildren **Gloda**, **Ralph** and **Lychee**, **Martin** and **Emily**, **Wowie**
relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for
the eternal repose of his soul.
His remains lie in state at the family residence in
Sum-ag, Bacolod City.
Interment will be on Thursday, February 15, 2001 after the
8 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Memorial Park, Bacolod City.

HERMELINA G. ASIADO-BUENO

(1947 - 2001)

Died in the Grace of our Lord on February 12, 2001
at the age of 53.

Her bereaved husband Bob, daughter Ting, father Valeriano Asiado, brothers Domingo and Felixberto, sisters Dolores, Luzviminda, Edita and Yolanda, in-laws, nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

Her remains lie in state at St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori Chapel I, Magallanes Village, Makati City.

Cremation services will be held at the Loyola Memorial Chapels Crematorium on Friday, February 16, 2001 at 8:00 a.m.

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord." 2 Corinthians 5:8

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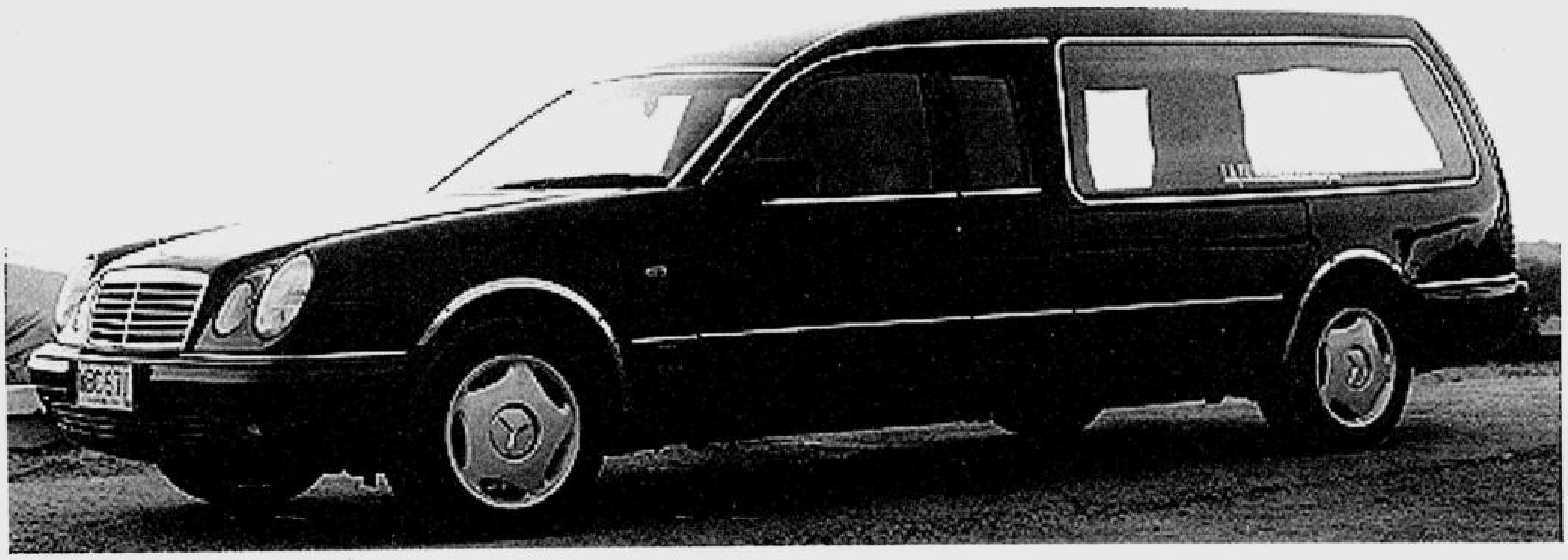

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PEOPLE at WORK

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ REGINA GALANG REYES, Subsection Editor

Is there room for love in the office?

BY REGINA GALANG REYES

NEXT to school and neighborhood, the office seems to be the next best place to find romance. However, depending on the circumstances, love at work can be sweet or sticky.

Consider these situations:

1. Single female and single male working in the same department fall in love. After a period of traditional courtship, they get married. Co-workers find the situation romantic. Their boss may be non-committal at first, but later on when the two tie the knot, considers transferring one of them to another department to avoid conflict of interest.

2. Married male boss falls in love with single female subordinate. She does not reciprocate. Boss insists on showering her with affection. Employees take their co-employee's side. The Human Resources department receives a sexual harassment complaint from the target of the unwanted love.

3. Married male boss and single female subordinate fall in love. Employees gossip at how the female subordinate seems to be getting all the breaks and perks. The boss' superiors get concerned about how the relationship affects employee morale.

The first situation is an office romance without strings. But even in this romantic best, the relationship is not absolutely welcome in an office set-up. If the two work in the same department, there will be concerns regarding their productivity, possible collusion, and credibility.

The second situation is a sexual harassment case. The office has to deal with this case in accordance with existing laws and company policies.

The third situation is a dangerous liaison. When one partner is in a position of authority, his credibility as an officer of the company is questioned because he has the power to make decisions that can boost the career of the other person. His "immoral" act also reflects on his integrity.

Handled gingerly

Whatever the situation, an office romance is often handled gingerly by people in the organization. A romance, whether legitimate or illicit, is a juicy piece of information for the office grapevine. And people in authority would look at how such a relationship would affect the company. Management is usually concerned about office romance because of its repercussions on employee morale, company image and credibility, and productivity.

As mandated by law, most offices would have policies on sexual harassment. Many would also have policies on "immorality" or immoral conduct especially of employees in authority or positions of trust. A few may have policies on office dating.

Reasons for love

Why do these situations arise? Working people spend more than half of their waking hours at work than at home. In the workplace, frequent interaction with co-employees creates friendships that inadvertently develop into romantic relationships due to proximity and commonality of concerns. Women and men in the workplace are also at their image best, meaning they are usually well groomed and well mannered. Thus, under these "ideal" circumstances, love, or what they believe to be love, blooms in office cubicles.

For married people, the situation is more tempting. At home, they see their spouses at their most informal and devoid of any pretenses or civilities. Comparing their spouses with the provocative males or females at work, their spouses miserably fail to compete and present a "romantic" image. Added to this, the attractive co-employees at work speak the same "language" while spouses may find it hard to understand and appreciate the work situations of their partners.

But many involved in such situations may not fully realize that "forbidden romance" at work can wipe out career gains, good reputations, and family stability in one stroke of bad luck.

Affairs discovered

Take the case of this male manager who had an affair with his single female executive assistant. He was a dashing upcoming executive. She was young, bright and attractive and armed with all the academic qualifications necessary for a rapid flight-up the career ladder. However, they had a habit of indulging in kissing sprees at night in the office. Unfortunately, employees in the office parking lot could view this spectacle through the office's thin curtains when the office lights were on. The two thought their affair was discreet enough. But the whole office knew about it. The manager never got promoted beyond his position; and neither did the executive assistant. Fortunately, employees never tipped off the wife.

Take this other case of a male manager. He kept making unwanted advances to his female subordinates. The advances seemed petty enough, like asking one out for lunch, or talking with a pretty staffer on non-work related matters for hours on end. The targets of his advances eventually got to know what the manager was doing to each of them and they filed a sexual harassment suit that ended in management asking for the manager's resignation. The manager resigned but found it difficult to get another job in the industry because the case became known in the other companies.

Another case is about a lovey-dovey couple. Both single, there seemed to be nothing wrong with the situation. But wherever one was, the other went too. Until their boss noticed that two bodies were performing the work of one. Their superior put his foot down and called the attention of the two lovebirds. Their promotions were put on hold.

What to do

If you work in an environment where office workers' relationships are cramping your work style or putting a wrench on productivity, what can you do, short of being accused of being too nosey (or envious)? Well, if one of the parties is a friend, talk to her/him about it and point out the negative effects of their relationship in the office, such as loss in office efficiency, discomfort in their presence when they make PDAs (public displays of affection) in the office, and others. However, if the situation concerns a married person and a single one, a boss and a subordinate, the concern may be raised privately with higher authorities in the office.

But if you are the one considering a romantic involvement at work, think about the consequences. Check the company's policies, whether written or unwritten, on such things. And if you're single, it's best never to get entangled with a married employee. Or if you're married, it is prudent not to get enmeshed in a scandalous circumstance with another employee.

Company policy

On the other hand, what can the company do about these icky situations? First, the company should make sure it has an office policy that complies with the requirements of the sexual harassment law. This policy should be made known to all employees and the mechanisms for implementing this policy should be in place.

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Second, the company should review its code of discipline to include offenses concerning immoral acts that affect the workplace. There are conflicting legal interpretations as to the extent the company can penalize "immoral" acts or as to whether these can considered as serious misconduct, especially if the two involved take care in not conducting their affair within office premises or company time. However, it would be to the company's favor if they would be able to define these offenses and include these in its code of discipline or company policies, considering at the same time the practice in their industry.

Third, the company should look at their policies on married couples working in the company or in the same department and decide what policy would work best within their corporate culture. Usually, direct supervisor-subordinate relationships are discouraged and a husband is prohibited from reporting to his wife and vice-versa.

Office dating

Fourth, the company should clarify its position and policy on office dating between unattached employees. Not many companies in the Philippines have thought of this yet but companies in the US do have such policies. For example, according to Working Woman magazine, at Du Pont, which has one of the most extensive sexual harassment prevention and education programs, dating is allowed, provided it is not a boss-subordinate relationship, in which case, one of the parties is reassigned. Another company, an ad agency known as The Richards Group, discourages employee dating of any kind. Though the policy is unwritten, new employees are told about the company's position on dating during the orientation seminar. If employees get involved, the company transfers one of them (based on the couple's decision) to the Richard Group's public relations or sales promotion agency.

Officially, office romance in the Philippines may not still be widely accepted at work. But definitely, romantic relationships at work abound, whether covertly or overtly, legitimately or otherwise. It's just there in the corporate woodwork, waiting to be uncovered. And unless the right balance in the company is achieved between regulating office behavior and employees' right to privacy, these affairs will escape from the woodwork to gnaw at the company's image and personal lives.

(Email feedback to rreyes@inquirer.com.ph.)

Secretary is in love with married boss

BY TITA DATU PUANGCO

MY husband is the sales manager of a company. He has a secretary who works under him but who also works for a higher boss. The secretary is two years younger than my husband and she has this notion that she is in love with my husband. My husband is so irritated with the secretary and he does not reciprocate. My question is this: Can my husband fire this secretary, considering she's working for the big boss also? Or can my husband just make a complaint to the big boss? But the secretary works efficiently. Are there other options? I told my husband to resign but since we have four kids and with the economic crisis, we can't afford it if he loses his job. But my husband and I are unhappy about the whole situation. Please advise us on what to do. Thank you for your time.

Unhappy wife

FOR THE
ANXIOUS PERSON
AT WORK

The problem that you shared is concerning the aggressive yet efficient secretary of your husband who is pursuing him. You wish to get advice as to what your husband should do to ward off the romantic advances of the secretary. However, your dilemma is that the secretary is very productive and efficient and is also the secretary of the big boss.

From your letter, I can sense that you have been losing sleep over the situation. I can empathize with you. Office romances, specially involving married individuals, are always tricky. It can poison an otherwise healthy working atmosphere and impact productivity adversely. It also is a sign of people's growing confusion on values, especially young people who may pursue momentary thrills at the expense of more stable relationships.

Lose/lose situations

Based on my observation, these romantic entanglements involving married people are lose/lose situations. The man loses, the woman loses. It is looking at short-term benefits at the expense of long-term happiness. As we grow spiritually as a nation, companies are starting to look down on married men who get involved with other women. They are viewed as "users" and "exploiters" of women. The woman loses her dignity, her self-esteem and her future. A woman's career can suffer; she becomes the target of ugly gossip and her image is tarnished.

The man loses time and resources that he could better dedicate to his family. And if he is found out, he can lose his wife and his entire family. Remember, this is the era of e-mail and text—gone are the days when a man can keep a second family while hiding the fact from his wife. The worst part is if he gets the woman pregnant and begins a second family. One of our readers in fact confessed he has difficulty living with the fact that the woman who got pregnant by him decided to undergo an abortion. He says living with the thought is hell.

So, what to do?

Renew relationship

First, rebuild and renew your relationship with your husband. Bring back the romance in your life; remember the early days of your courtship. Try to spend a few hours alone together—some quiet time once a week to see a movie, to dine out, to share a joke. Remember that building the foundation of a stable husband and wife relationship is more important than work or building relationships with the children.

It is a good sign that your husband shared his dilemma or concern with you. In my opinion, it is a cry for help.

Second, your husband can try working without a secretary to lessen face-to-face contact. In these days of Internet, cell phones and pagers, who needs a secretary? Most companies today have promoted secretaries to

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

more interesting jobs and have instead multi-skilled executives to take care of their own needs. At the beginning, it would be difficult. But when he tries, he can discover the freedom of being self-sufficient.

Be formal

Third, your husband can be more formal when dealing with her. As they say, it takes two to tango. Your husband may have wittingly or unwittingly encouraged it. Why do single women fall for married men? One man shared that women fall for married men because married men know how to handle women, are kind, considerate and easily empathize with women. So tell your husband to raise the boundary between him and the secretary. He should try to be more business-like and professional when dealing with her. He should send clear signals that he is not encouraging her interest in him. He should avoid occasions when they are alone together. So, meetings should always be held with other people around. He should try to avoid after-office socials.

Fourth, ask your husband to reflect on what are the woman's motives. Is it to display a prize catch because your husband is attractive and good-looking? But remember, good looks can fade and pass away. Is it because of the experience of being treated to plush resorts or restaurants? Is it lack of attention and low self esteem? Being more suspicious of motives can burst the bubble of romance and dampen one's imagination.

Keep busy

Fifth, your husband must keep busy. He must focus on getting his work done. This saying, which we learned when we were young, is true—"an idle mind is the devil's workshop." Putting in a full eight-hour day, then going home to renew relationships with the family will be a better investment of time and effort.

Sixth, let us believe in the power of prayer. We know that God continues to guide us even in the most difficult situations. We have seen how His way of responding to our prayers can be miraculous.

Take care and God bless you. We will pray for the two of you.

(Ms Puangco is CEO and president of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. For comments, feedback or advice for problems at work, you can send email to ancillaedc@pacific.net.ph *or a fax to tel. no. 892-2902.)*

How do you resolve a dispute with a co-worker?

WORKING WOUNDED

By Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: I had a huge blowup with a guy on my work team and even though we've resolved the issue that caused the problem there's still a lot of tension between us. Other members of the team have said it's getting in the way and told us to get over it, but I just can't. I'd rather fight than switch.

Dear Fight:

Ever had a secret desire to go to a nude beach? A neighbor of mine did, and his story shows the value of dispute resolution. Neil and his wife, Bonnie, had saved up for years for their tropical vacation, and when they arrived, Neil, at least, was delighted to learn there was a nude beach down the road. But after days of futile efforts to get Bonnie into, then out of, her bathing suit, he realized he'd have to do the nude scene solo. It took him a while to get up the courage to come out from behind a bush, but he kept telling himself, "I'm 4,000 miles from home; there's no chance I'll run into anyone I know." Finally, as he took his first tentative steps au natural, he heard, "Neil, over here! It's Marvin Greenblatt!" In an instant, Neil saw more of his company's largest client than he'd ever thought possible.

Well, the next time you're ready to dress-down your nemesis, remember Neil's rule: always keep your backside covered. Nemeses have an uncanny way of serving on the committee awarding that plum assignment or getting promoted to be your boss. So for the sake of your career, and your mental health, let me suggest a bold plan: invite your nemesis to lunch. Raise the topic of your dispute and see if, away from the office, you can find your way to a resolution.

Here are some questions, adapted from "How to Mediate Your Dispute" by Peter Lovenheim (Nolo Press, 1996) to get you started:

1. Can you share responsibility (rather than just blaming the other party)? My mom never let me off the hook when I'd blame my friends for our arguments and she was right: I was as much at fault. So try starting with a simple apology for everything you've contributed to the mess.

2. Can you look to the future (and let go of the past)? Conducting an autopsy of your past problems will only endanger your current precarious truce. Instead ask, "what do we each have to do from now on to preserve our working relationship?"

3. Can you focus on what you need (rather than what you want)? As Mick said, you can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you just may find, you get what you need. Forget your wish list; focus instead on your bottom line.

4. Can you be flexible? In disputes, flexibility always seems to be the first casualty. Can you both make the commitment to be more flexible in the future?

I know it's hard to take off the boxing gloves when you feel like you haven't landed your last punch, but if you want to get ahead, it's what you've got to do. Take it from Neil and me: that's the naked truth.

Here are the results of the recent workingwounded.com poll: How do you resolve a dispute with a coworker?

—Turn the other cheek, 14 percent

—Bite off his ear, 18 percent

—Try to see eye to eye, 68 percent

Our winning dispute resolution strategy comes from Terry, a manager, in Seattle. "I have a standing policy to any employee that is having trouble with another employee. I will pay for lunch if the two of them will go out together and take the time to discuss their conflict and find a way to get along."

(Email feedback to bob@workingwounded.com.)

Prosecutor's impeccable courtroom manners win hearts

By Cecile G. Garcia

CAREER *Tales*

HIS impeccable courtroom manners, boyish smile and quick, appropriate answers to the questions of the chief justice, senator-judges and defense panel won the hearts of the viewers of the impeachment trial. Simeon Marcelo, one of the private prosecutors in the impeachment trial, handled the direct examination of star witness Governor Luis "Chavit" Singson, and became, in the process, one of the leading lights in this historical trial.

He says of that brief shining moment, "No, it was not rehearsed. Singson wouldn't have it that way." Neither was it in the usual question and answer courtroom form. "It was narrative. The witness was telling a story."

During the entire proceeding, Marcelo, though low-key and unassuming, stood out. In fact, he was brilliant. Cool and unflappable, he was so prepared, nothing could have surprised or unnerved him. "Lawyering is preparation," Marcelo stresses. "Trial work is like playing chess. You anticipate your opponent's moves as you carefully plan yours. It is role-playing. You imagine yourself in the opponent's shoes. How would you react, what question would you ask?"

This writer's interview with lawyer Marcelo takes place on the same morning he is bidding goodbye to his partners and the office staff. Marcelo is busy clearing his desk, winding things up and endorsing his clients to his partners. "I have to withdraw from private practice for now," he says. This is because he has been asked by President Macapagal Arroyo to join government service.

Marcelo, incidentally, is one of GMA's personal lawyers. The lawyer has been with Carpio, Villaraza and Cruz Law Offices for 19 years, having signed up in 1982, and has been, until now, senior partner and head of the firm's litigation department.

Priestly calling

Marcelo, however, did not aspire to be a lawyer. "I wanted to be a priest," he says. He was in third year philosophy—a course leading to theology, at the San Jose Seminary—when he dropped out. "I felt I was not a natural for priesthood. Obeying rules was a constant struggle," he discloses. Nevertheless, he pursued philosophy and later on decided to take up law "because I didn't want to be deskbound. I enrolled at UP for economic reasons. Tuition then was P300 per semester," allows Marcelo. Why litigation? "When you're young, you picture a lawyer as someone who goes to court, argues his cases and wins."

THE IMPEACHMENT trial made him a better person.

In the past five years, Marcelo has lost only one case. Highly competitive, he exerts all efforts and goes the extra mile in order to win. "I win the cases I set my mind on winning," he says. Although he'd like to think he's a gracious winner, losing makes him feel bad. Marcelo says he never entertains thoughts of losing.

Legal training

The lawyer attributes his legal skills partly to his training at ACCRA Law Offices, under his mentors, Senator Franklin Drilon and now DECS Secretary Raul Roco. But it was Drilon's late wife Violy, who gave Marcelo his first break. She was then senior partner and head of ACCRA's admissions committee. Recounts Marcelo, "I knew they preferred cum laudes, which I was not (though he was in the top 10 of his class, UP College of Law '79). She took a chance when she brought me into the firm." It was an auspicious beginning. Marcelo eventually became an associate and stayed with ACCRA until 1982.

An expert in corporate litigation, Marcelo considers his involvement in the impeachment trial the highest point in his career. "What can top it?" It is also the most demanding case he has handled so far. "I survived on four hours of sleep, antibiotics and Sinutab," says Marcelo, who was recruited as private prosecutor by another lawyer, Romeo Capulong. It was decided that Marcelo would do the direct examination of Singson because he was familiar with the testimony, having prepared the summary for the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee.

Sacrifices

There's no question that the trial has affected Marcelo's lifestyle and even more profoundly, his life. For starters, he had to take a leave from his practice and his job as general counsel for Lakas. "I didn't want my move to be misconstrued as political," says Marcelo, quickly pointing out that his involvement in the impeachment trial entailed sacrifice. But he has never regretted this.

Nevertheless, the grueling hours, the hectic pace were more than enough to disrupt his family life. Weekends usually spent with his three elder boys, playing volleyball at the Ateneo and dinner with his wife, had to be relinquished. December 29, their wedding anniversary, has always been a very special day for the Marcelo couple. "Normally, we spend the whole day together. We'd go out of town," says the lawyer. It pained him that this time they were limited to an early morning Mass and a late dinner. Still, Rosanna, his wife of 12 years, was the soul of understanding and support.

Marcelo, by the way, got married at 34. He explains, "I wanted to be a partner before settling down. When you're a partner, you have more control and more or less, you set the schedule." Which, of course, went awry when the impeachment trial took place.

Changes

Marcelo would like to think that the momentous event in history has made him a better person. "I believe it has changed me. It has also strengthened my faith in prayer," he says. Despite the tremendous pressure and the daily struggle, there was awareness among them that history was happening and that they were part of it. "I guess it changed many of us. Nonoy Andaya spoke for all of us when he said that we were no longer the same persons we were before the impeachment trial," Marcelo discloses.

The trial has affected Marcelo on a professional level as well. "After hearing Joker Arroyo argue from the heart and out of strong conviction, in contrast to Estelito Mendoza who argued from a standpoint of skill, you are inspired to the very depths of your soul," says the lawyer. He feels that having been a participant in something so large, far-reaching and historic can do no less than motivate him to aspire for some kind of greatness, a certain nobility of purpose and goal. "Yet, you wish you could retire and teach law on impeachment," he adds.

In reality, Marcelo plans to retire at 50. "Maybe, I'll join the judiciary, teach and become more active in NGOs engaged in legal aid," he informs. Right now, he heads the Integrated Bar of the Philippines' task force on child abuse. "This is my advocacy," he says, noting that the more memorable cases he has encountered are those he does pro bono. But because child abuses are emotionally draining, Marcelo would like to move on to juvenile delinquency. But before that, he would like to finish a primer he's preparing for lawyers handling child abuse cases for the first time.

MARCELO is an expert in corporate litigation.

PHOTOS BY JOHNNY VILLENA

Faith in justice

There have been times when Marcelo's faith in our justice system has been shaken. He recalls, "Congressman Bunye of Muntinlupa had been previously convicted of charges of corruption by the Sandiganbayan. I defended his case in the Supreme Court. In the end, Bunye was acquitted on grounds that the charges had no bases." Bunye's wrongful conviction, says Marcelo, is one proof that our justice system needs improvement.

On the upside, Marcelo recounts his previous run-ins with Estelito Mendoza. The first time was in 1985 when Mendoza was solicitor general. The next encounter was in 1995 when Marcelo handled the defense of the family of Henry Sy, in a case filed jointly by the Que family and the Prudential Life group, who were represented by another noted litigator, Ike Belo, and, of course, Estelito Mendoza. The charges were dismissed.

Marcelo considers himself blessed. "I was born and I grew up in a barrio in Nueva Ecija. We were poor. Our first home was a nipa hut and we could not afford a TV set until after I finished college," he says. Marcelo, who's now motherless, looks up to his father, a simple man, whom he calls Tatang. "My father measures success or achievement in terms of how much you have done for others. As far as he's concerned, I haven't really done much," says Marcelo, who promised to do better when he retires so that he can finally measure up to his father's expectations.

How to deal with a woman boss

By Ernie O. Cecilia

RECENTLY, I wrote about "Breaking the glass ceiling" in this paper. In conclusion, I wrote that women are among the new generation of leaders. A reader from L.A. (Legazpi, Albay) sent me a text message that reacted to my conclusion. It said, "Women are not just among the new generation of leaders; they are the leaders of the new generation."

Jane C., the top woman in charge of one of the largest selling brands of duplicating machines in the Bicol region and the sender of the message, set me to serious thinking. Considering the changing needs of leadership in the workplace today, her message could very well be a truism now and for the years to come.

Proper behavior

If your boss is a woman, do you have to behave differently than if he were a man? What does it take to get along with a woman boss? What are her expectations from her subordinates? Are women executives as fickle-minded as the girl next door? Or has she become just one of the boys—harsh, ruthless and objective to the point of being inconsiderate sometimes?

Here are a few tips on how to cope with a woman boss.

- Remember that she is the boss.

In all your dealings with a woman boss, always remember that she is first the boss, then a woman second. As her subordinate, you are responsible and accountable to her for your deliverables. In the workplace, the boss is expected to plan, lead, organize and control.

Accept the fact that the woman is your boss and be objective in your dealings with her. Exert the same effort to achieve your goals and never expect that the woman boss will be soft on incompetent or disobedient subordinates.

- Remember that she needs respect.

A woman usually does not bully other people but that should not make her lose the respect that she deserves. Gone are the days when the stronger person in the tribe becomes the natural choice for a leader. In the world of knowledge workers, you don't have to be a bully to become a leader.

On the contrary, when a woman becomes the boss, particularly in a male-dominated company or industry, she deserves to be respected highly. In the eyes of the powers that be, she must have proven herself equal to the position.

Appreciation

- Remember that she needs appreciation, too.

Like every other person, male or female, the woman boss will surely appreciate a warm greeting, a card on special occasions, praise for good work done, and a token whenever necessary.

Gay C. remembers how Toots, her CEO, always appreciates it whenever Gay sends her some notes of appreciation after a great speech during the general assembly of workers, or even a slice of her favorite cake when she misses her lunch, and a birthday or a valentine card. "Those sincere tokens of appreciation went a long way in making me and my function closer to her," Gay muses.

- Obey her instructions.

Subordinates must always obey reasonable instructions of the boss, whether male or female. When the boss is a woman, a case of disobedience by a male subordinate could be seen in a different light.

Male subordinates must be sensitive not to feel that there is an "overlapping of statuses." At home, the male is probably the dominant figure and he might have some difficulty reconciling why he must take orders from a woman in the workplace. When this happens, refer to tip number one above.

Meticulous

- Be prepared up to the minutest detail.

Most women bosses are very thorough and expect their subordinates, male or female, to prepare up to the minutest detail. When presenting an idea, better double check on your sources, your key messages, your recommendations and their implications.

Women are particular about the accuracy as well as the aesthetics of your report. In fact, some women bosses will check on your grooming as thoroughly as they scrutinize your presentation.

- Find creative ways to communicate with her.

By nature, women are creative. It is nice to be logical in your thinking and presentation but when presenting to a woman boss, be prepared with a lot of "what ifs."

Do some lateral thinking and be creative in your presentation. While women may have a lot more patience than men, the woman boss can easily see when you are getting drab, dull and banal. Try a lot of innovative ways to get your message across. You'll be surprised that you could be on the same wavelength.

Proper treatment

- Don't treat her like one of the boys.

While she will always say that she does not need any special or preferential treatment, it might not settle well if you treat her just like one of the boys. She could easily get affected by glaring generalizations, rough behavior, foul words or provocative body language.

- Don't patronize her because she is a woman.

On the other hand, you should not patronize the boss just because she is a woman. If her position is not entitled to certain perquisites or type of treatment, don't accord or grant her that. She will not feel good about it either.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

The boss of the woman executive must not give her a set of lower performance standards. That would be unfair to other male executives and it might unduly lessen the esteem of the woman executive. Her subordinates must not also use a lesser measure in their expectations just because she is a woman.

No-nonsense

- Don't mess with her.

Women bosses are usually very serious about their jobs and their careers. They have a no-nonsense attitude about work, have a great deal of character and integrity, and exact the same measure from their subordinates.

Don't ever commit the mistake of taking your commitments lightly or reneging on your promises. Women bosses are particular about honesty in your dealings. Here's my advice—don't ever mess with her for she can surely mess with you.

- Don't underestimate her.

Many subordinates who thought that their women bosses could not be tough-minded or ruthless about deciding on their fate have learned their lesson too late. While a woman boss can use persuasion, she will not hesitate to use power and position whenever necessary.

With her unassuming countenance and a lot of creativity, she can camouflage her awesome power to blow away shenanigans in the workplace, and they will never know what suddenly hit them.

Women bosses have a distinct advantage in that they are usually underrated, especially by male peers and subordinates.

Yes, Jane, women have come a long way since Genesis 2:22 when God "formed a woman out of the rib and brought her to him."

Let God run your life or events will

RECIPES*for* LEARNING

By
Moje Ramos-Aquino

THESE Valentine messages sent by many friends over the years impress me. Let me share them with you.

Friends are the greatest.

Friends are heart-to-heart and "remember when" stories.

Friends hug the little child in you.

Friends believe in you.

Friends are the rarest gems in the world.

Friends are angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly.

Valentine isn't just about couples and romance. It is about sharing and letting the people you care about know how important they are in your life.

Happy Valentine's Day, my dear readers and friends!

It just seems like yesterday that it was Christmas and New Year and then, Erap unceremoniously quit the presidency and now, it is already Valentine's Day. Wow, how time flies!

God's will

Really now, if you do not plan your life according to His will, then events might simply overtake your dreams and run your life for you. Take your lessons from current events, especially what happened to former President Erap and the 11 "no" senators, Joe's Cohorts (Remember their names and tell your children about them: Jaworski, Ople, Enrile, Santiago, Coseteng, Oreta, Honasan, John Osmeña, Revilla, Tatad and Sotto)

By now, you would already have your Personal Vision, Mission, Values and Big Life Goals (BLG). You would have also subjected your goals to a SMARTS test and a Force Field Analysis.

Now, your task is to further narrow down your Big Life Goals into smaller, achievable chunks. As we said in our previous column, your BLG are long term and they are ends that you want to attain, using your values to achieve your mission along the path of your vision. Your BLG further clarifies your Personal Vision and Mission by identifying results to be achieved.

Doable objectives

You can not just "do" your goal. You need to break them down into smaller doable processes and write your objectives. Your objectives will provide a framework for your BLG. Objectives progress beyond the generalities of your goals. They are clear and measurable expression of your goals.

It will help you drive hard to achieve your BLG if you write your objectives for what you are trying to achieve. An objective, therefore, is the object or the aim of your action. It states required and measurable results, not actions, to achieve your BLG. It implies an explicit direction for the action to take place and a specific quality of work to be accomplished within a given period of time. Your objectives reflect your desired results for yourself, your family and your organization. They provide you with the directions for your decision making and a criterion against which results will be measured.

Objectives are more detailed than your BLGs. They are more definitive statements of goal achievement with more specific constraints. It is best to express your objectives in clear, precise terms so that there is no risk of misunderstanding. Like your BLG, your objectives should also be SMARTS.

As for the final S (Stretched), doing the same thing and expecting different results doesn't work. Your objectives should be something that will move you towards your BLG in a significant manner.

Priorities

You could write as many objectives for each of your BLG as you need in order for you to achieve your BLG in the end. Just a little caution—too many objectives might confuse and overwhelm you. Also, you might lose sight of your priorities and think that these objectives are already your end goals.

For example, some people spend all their energies and time on their career to the exclusion of their family, spiritual and social life and forget that work is just a means to fulfilling a dream. Cluster your objectives as much as possible. Check for overlaps, duplications and gaps. Make sure that the important forces that either help or hinder you from attaining your BLG are addressed.

Your objective statement includes, in any order, a verb plus an indicator for measuring your progress towards your goal plus your target level of how much you aim to accomplish plus time frame.

Example

We will work on the continuation of our example last week. After doing a force field analysis on our BLG 1, we can now write a few illustrative objectives on how to get nearer the accomplishment of this particular BLG.

BLG #1: By November 30, 2005 at the cost of Php2.5M, I would have built a split-level house with 120 sq.m. floor area with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, living room with a foyer, a kitchen cum dining room area, two-car garage, surrounded with fruit bearing trees and flowering plants on a 200 sq.m. lot in Antipolo City.

Please note that this BLG is not doable in one day with one big step even if you have all the millions in the world. You need to achieve a number of significant objectives in order to eventually realize your BLG #1. Here are some sample objectives based on critical driving and restraining forces in our Force Field Analysis that you could aim at in order to make sure that your BLG #1 would happen.

Objective #1: By February 15, 2001, I would have stopped smoking cold turkey.

Objective #2: On her 80th birthday, February 9, 2006, my mom is still happy, healthy and leading a productive life with us.

Objective #3: By January 30, 2002, I would have fully paid for a piece of property at the Bankers Village in Antipolo City.

Objective #4: By February 10, 2005, my housing loan with Pag-Ibig Fund would have been released and ready for use.

Objective #5: Starting with our March 30 payday and every 30th thereafter, we would have saved 20% of our total income and placed in a trust account at Equitable Bank.

Objective #6: By schoolyear 2003, Misel would have entered UP Diliman for a course in hotel and restaurant management.

Objective #7: By January 1, 2005, all the plans for the new house would already been finalized, the building contractor hired and the construction begun.

Objective #8: By July 2002, I would have paid in full my car loan.

What other objectives would you need to set in order to achieve your BLG #1? And yes, you need to set objectives for every BLG you have to make sure that you achieve them. Having finalized your objectives, in the next column, we will do action planning to specify specific tasks under each objective. Your action plans could help you stay focused and organized, coordinate your many and varied activities, keep your objectives and BLG on schedule, and make you committed to a fulfilling life.

ASTD Updates

The ASTD 2001 International Conference and Exposition shall be held on June 2-7, 2001 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, USA. Leading speakers will discuss emerging workplace learning trends and share practical techniques. The six world-class keynote speakers are Fast Company founder Bill Taylor, modern-day management guru and famous author Tom Peters, Healthy Company International top executives and book authors Robert Rosen and Patricia Digh, values and vision advocate Michele Hunt and noted academician and consultant Allison Rossett. This might be the first and last time that all these eminent human resource management experts will be together in the same forum at this time.

You may pick up your brochures and get information and assistance about the conference and the travel package from Paradigms & Paradoxes Consultants, the designated delegation sponsor for the Philippines. Please call (02) 715-9332 and ask for Adrian or Jenny.

Personal greetings: A happy 75th birthday to my mom, Mrs. Benita "Nanay Ning" Lasala Fernandez-Ramos and 101th birthday to my mom's mom, Lola May. All the best for you two loving and lovable ladies and my role models and may they live longer than the 120 of mom's mom's mom, Papu. Please include them in your prayers. Thanks for our dream, mother dearest, and happy Valentine!

(E-mail feedback to moje.ramos@aquino.zzn.com).

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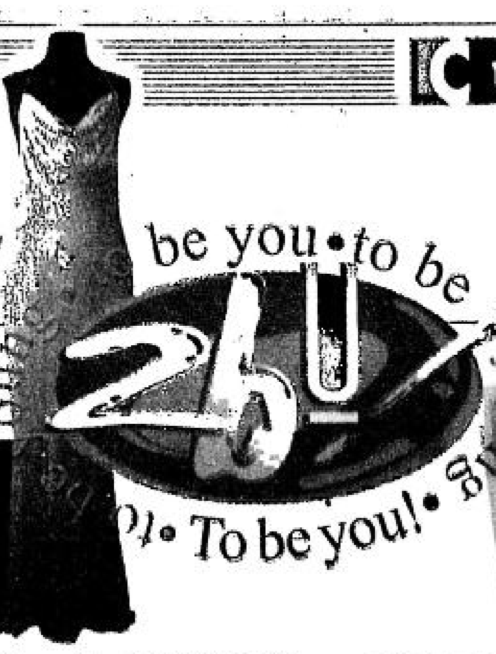
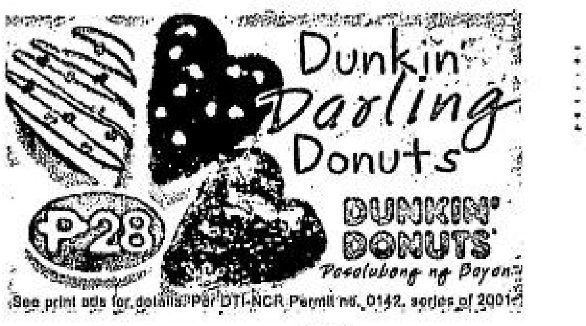
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 0288 Series of 2001

For feedback or suggestions ls_2bu@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

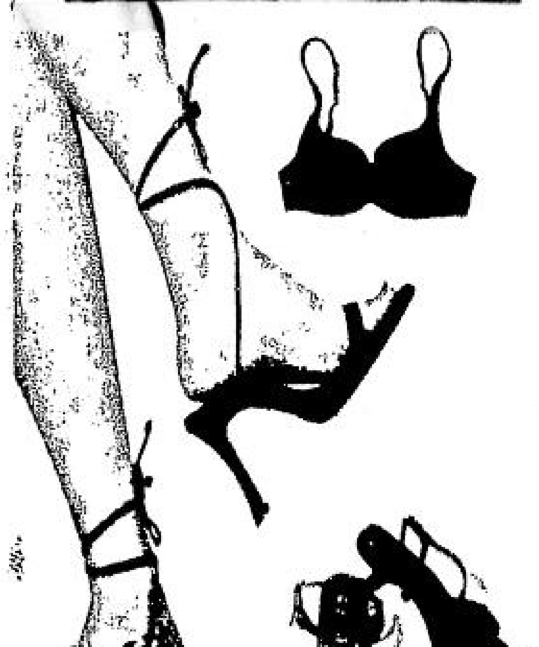
CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

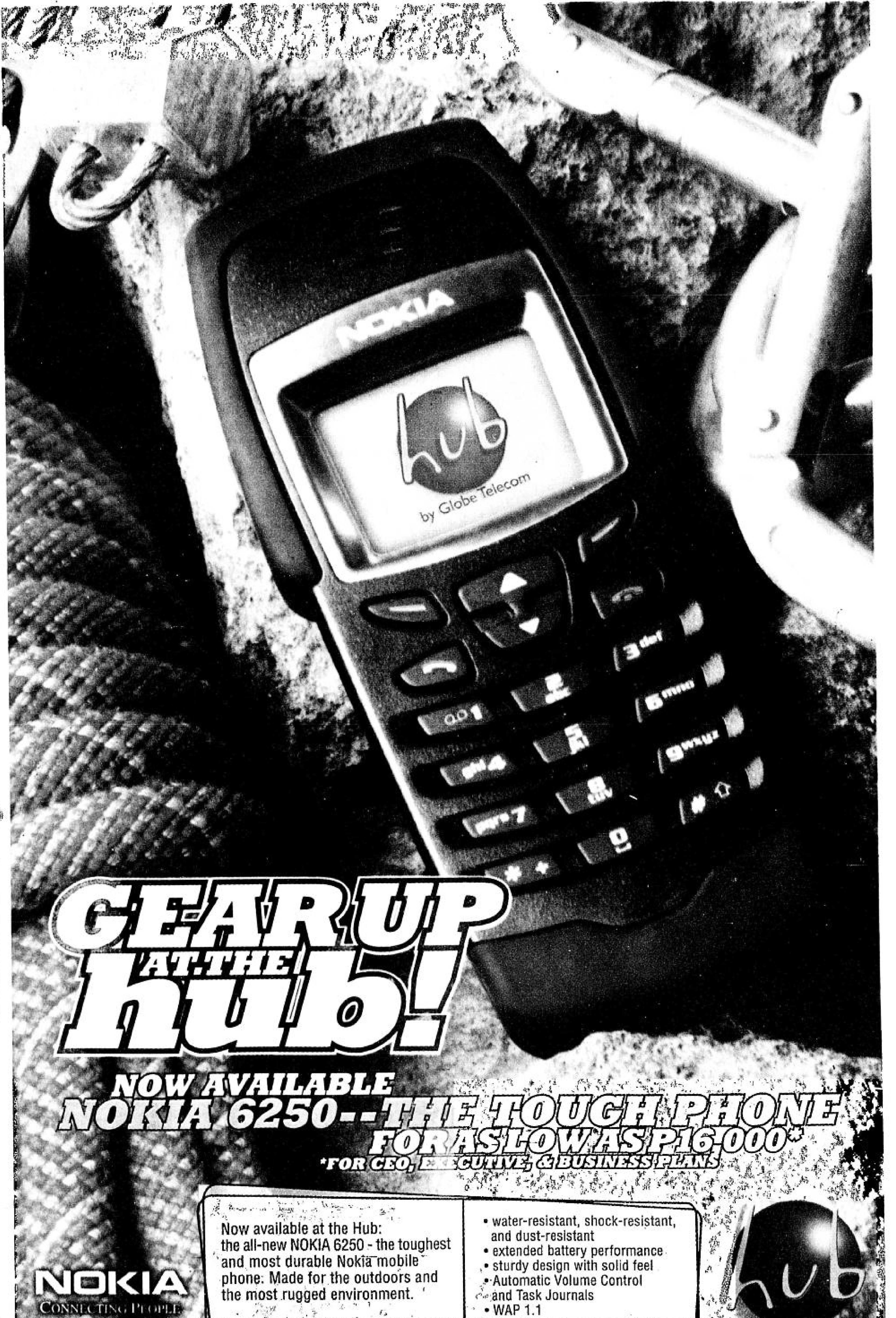

be you • to be you! • To be you! • 2bU


Dunkin' Darling Donuts
P28
DUNKIN' DONUTS
Pasalubong ng Bayan
See print ads for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit no. 0142, series of 2001

2bU! takes you to the prom

2bU! wants your prom to be the most memorable night of your life. The 2bU! prom special has put together everything you'll need—a complete guide, clothes, shoes, a directory, a sneak peak at other proms—and we're even throwing a prom party for you.

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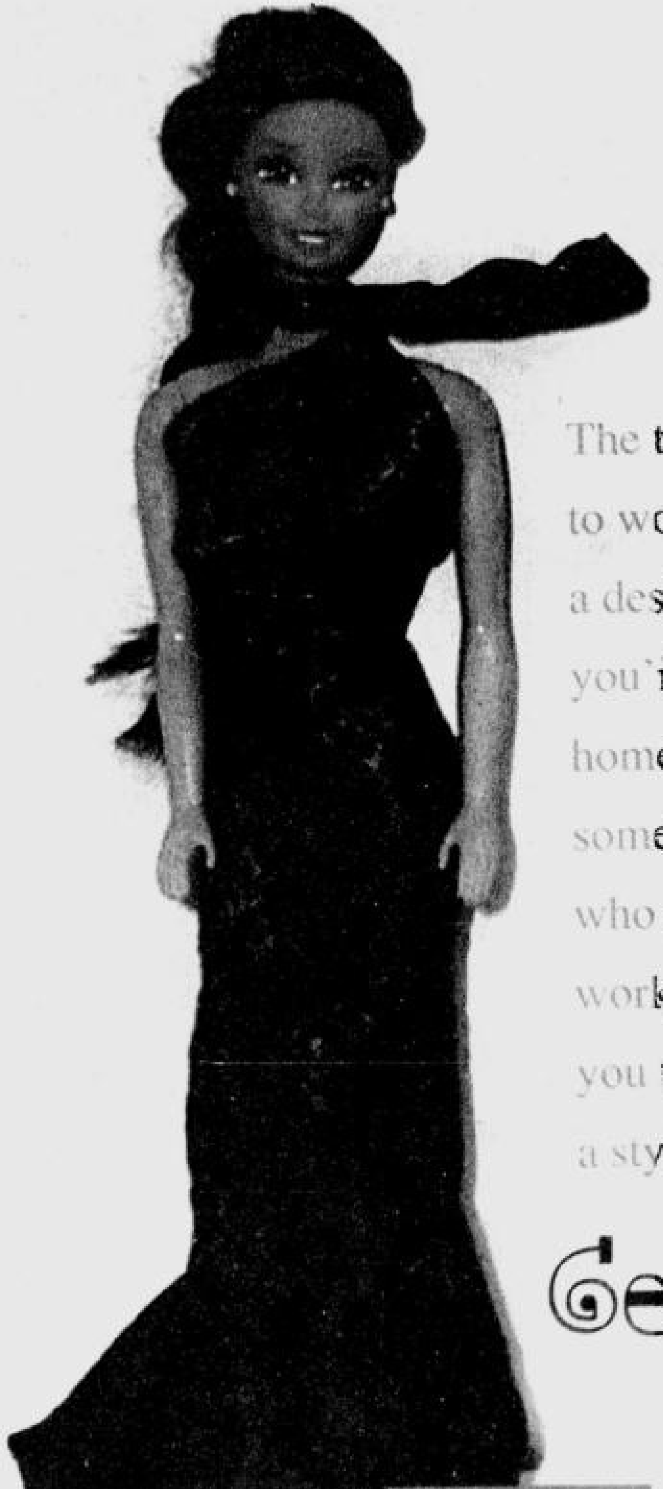


> The trick is to work with a designer you're at home with, somebody who will work with you to create a stylish look

THE ASIAN AESTHETIC. Rajo Laurel's modern take on the Japanese samurai (center)

Get all dolled up this prom season

LUCY LIU IN BLUE. Cobalt asymmetrical abaca silk serpentine gown by Katrina Goulbourn

KATRINA Goulbourn

By Tim Yap

YOU know prom is coming up soon but the big question is: Do you know what to wear?

You probably would not want to get something off the rack and end up having the same dress as the on-campus corn queen. You may go to your mom's designer, but that's how you'll end up looking—like her.

Nothing comes close to knowing and feeling you look your best—from the sexy cut of your gown that makes you look taller to the color that flatters your skin, not to mention your makeup and accessories. It's all in the details, honey.

Male and more

Guys mostly buy off the rack, choosing from a selection from Paul Smith, Armani, Cerruti, Hugo Boss, Sari-Sari or Linea. Mix and match it with a colored tie and voila! Ready for the big night!

A word of advice for men. It's always nice to be a little different. Look at your clothes the same way you look at your car. Every accessory has to be polished and updated. Shoes, socks, handkerchief, coat, tie and cuff links all neatly laid out in bed. Think of it as your wedding day—without the honeymoon. (Naughty, naughty!)

Choose a coat that makes you look sleek—Godfather-style. A three-quarter jacket is cool like the "Matrix" look. (Uh, don't bring the shades anymore—there won't be any sun anyway.) Don't be afraid of gray or brown—Wall Street chic. Superbly tailored coats with fun little details—very Saville Row. Play with color—mix a tangerine shirt with an olive tie, a fuchsia shirt with a yellow tie. Be bold! Nothing beats a well-dressed date.

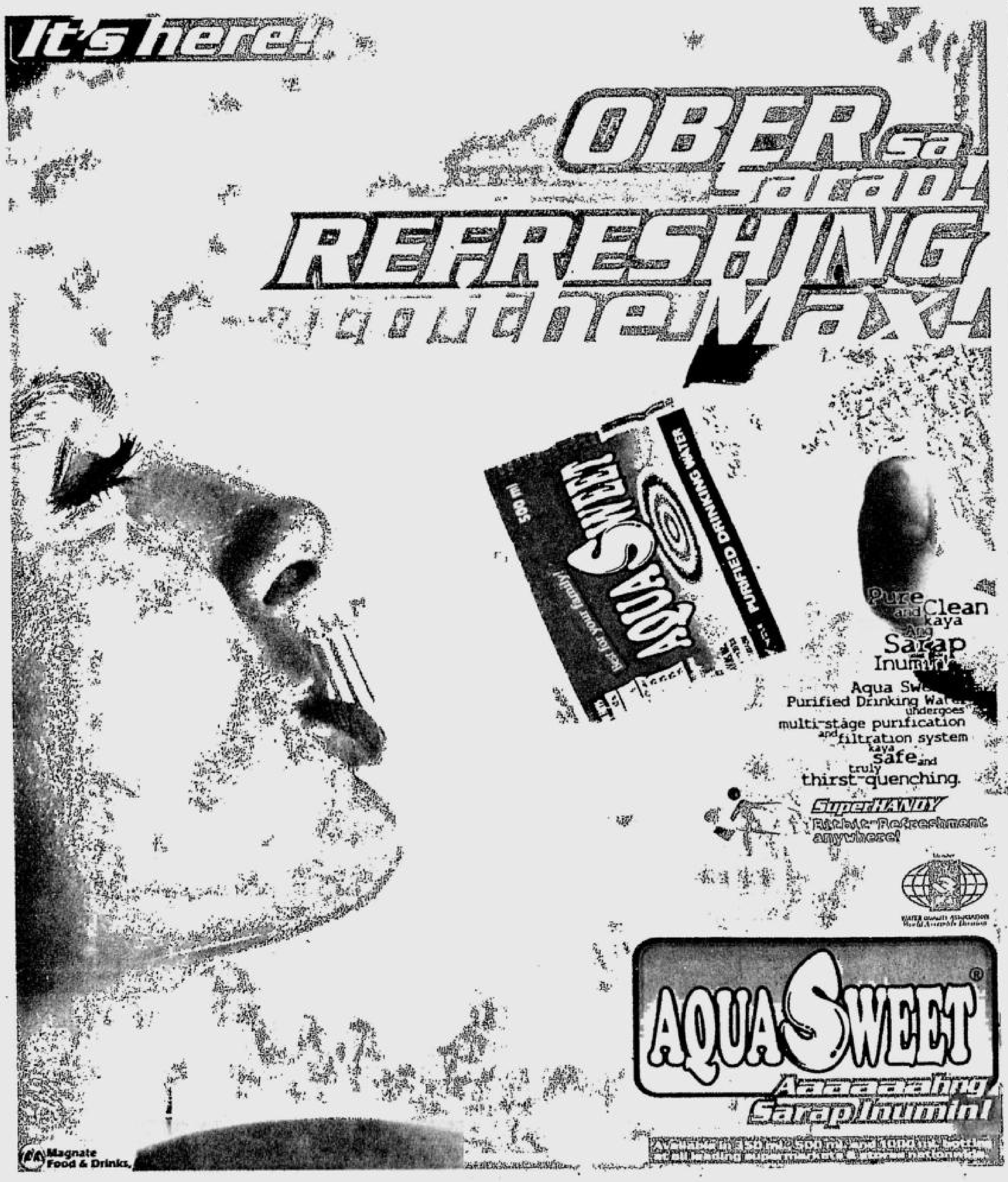
Wearing it

For the ladies, drape your shawl more creatively. Maybe your fashion icon is Sen. Loren Legarda, or—God forbid!—Nikki Coseteng—but you can still look chic without boring your shawl to death. Carry a cute tote or a dainty bag instead of a tiara, unless you savor looking like a candidate for Little Miss Philippines.

Go to a designer whom you are most comfortable with, one whom you could get along with in terms of taste and price, one who would not impose his/her ideas on you, but who would actually work with you. Hey, its you who's going to wear the gown, right?

We at 2bU! know your predicament so we-

GET/ p.C6



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HAIR and makeup guru Henri Calayag of BCBG

Makeup or break

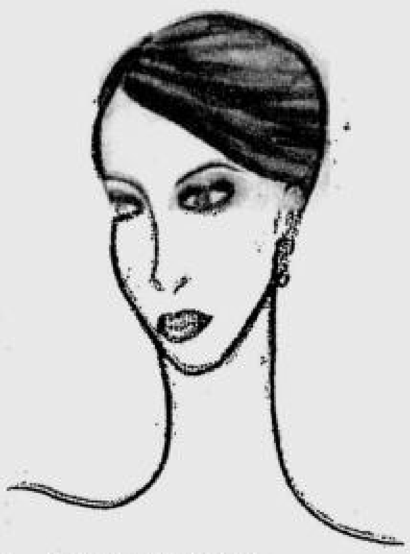
YOU almost got it right. The right dress, fab jewelry, a cute date—but there is still something missing. Too many times we see girls in their prom best only to trip and fumble for having the wrong makeup.

Let's face it, the right makeup makes or breaks a look. Nobody buys cake with ugly icing. Okay, maybe that's a totally different story, but you get the point, right?

So to get it right, we consulted makeup guru Henri Calayag of BCBG. Henri is to makeup as Inno Sotto is to formal wear, so you get the drift.

This prom season, Henri recommends two major looks—the sun-kissed look and Peach Melba look.

MAKEUP/ p.C7



SUN-KISSED look

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

From prom fright to prom night

By Walter Ang

"HOW in the world am I supposed to ask her to the prom?" is one question undoubtedly on the minds of many young men this time of the year. The ladies, on the other hand, have such concerns as, "What am I going to wear? How should I wear my hair?" and so on.

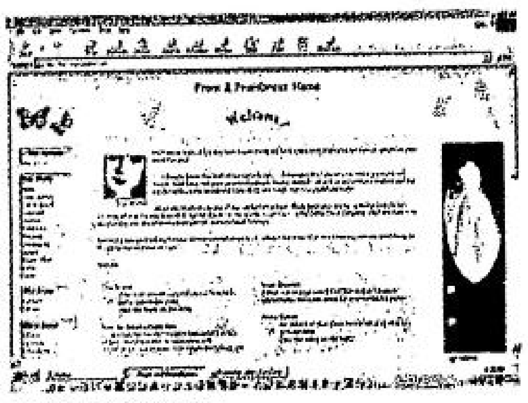
Promdress.net is a one-stop shop for all the information you'll need to get you started for the prom. For the ladies who still have no idea what to wear, it has a link to in-vogue prom dresses (which you can probably print out and show to your neighborhood *modista* for a more reasonably priced version). Most useful for shy guys is an advice page on how to ask the girl of your dreams to the event of the school year.

The aquamarine site also provides tips for picking out the right tux and general etiquette tips for both the guys and the girls. Since prom night can be one of the most nerve-racking events of your entire life, being prepared with all the correct information will help ease things up a bit.

It would really be a weight off your shoulders if you knew when to stand and when to sit, who should pay for what and what kind of gifts you need to buy ahead of time, right?

For prom first-timers, get an idea of how it might turn out by reading up on contributed stories. While there are romantic success stories, there are a couple of funny prom disasters with people passing out from being too wasted on alcohol and other embarrassing situations. Don't ruin your own prom, so be sure to learn the moral lesson of those prom disaster stories!

For students who are on the prom committee this year, the site has a great "Prom Planning 101" section that enumerates 17, count them, 17 "prom elements." Never realized organizing the prom would be this daunting? Don't fret, it won't be if you get started on the list of to-dos. At least this way, you'll have a checklist so you can be sure to take care of everything. The site even offers a list of themes and color motifs to get you started on those brainstorming sessions for your own prom.



PROMDRESS.NET

Top Korean officials lead Korea-Philippine Conference at UP Diliman

THE UP College of Arts and Letters, with the Korean Association of Philippine Studies (KAPS), is holding a half-day conference entitled "The Philippines and South Korea at the Dawn of the New Millennium: The Present Conditions and Prospects for the Philippines and South Korea," today, 1:30 p.m. at the Pulungang Claro M. Recto, Faculty Center, UP Diliman, QC. The Korean envoy to the Philippines will be there.

The conference will feature top scholars from South Korea and the Philippines who will present papers in the fields of political science, economy and the arts. The Philippine panel includes Dr. Alice G. Guillermo from the UP Department of Art Studies; Prof. Miriam Coronel-Ferrer, director of the UP Third World Studies Center, and Dr. Cristina Pantoja-Hidalgo, director of the UP Creative Writing Center.

Korea will be represented by Dr. Youn, Jung-Suk (Department of Political Science, Chung-Ang University), Dr. Kim, Jong-Ho (Department of Social Studies, Seoul National University of Education) and Dr. Yeon, Jeom-Sook (Department of English, Kyung-Hee University). The public is invited.

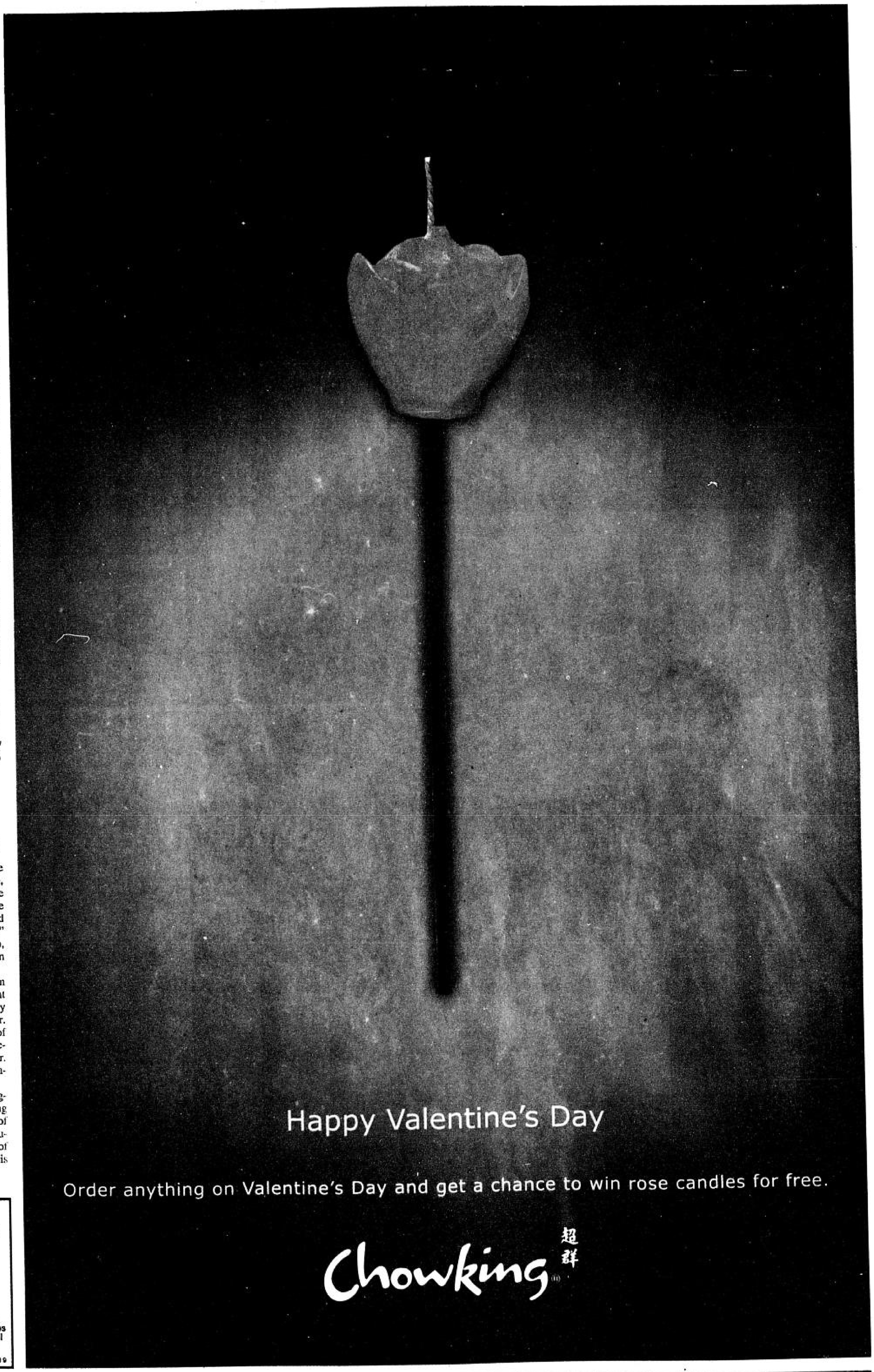
CandyMag.com

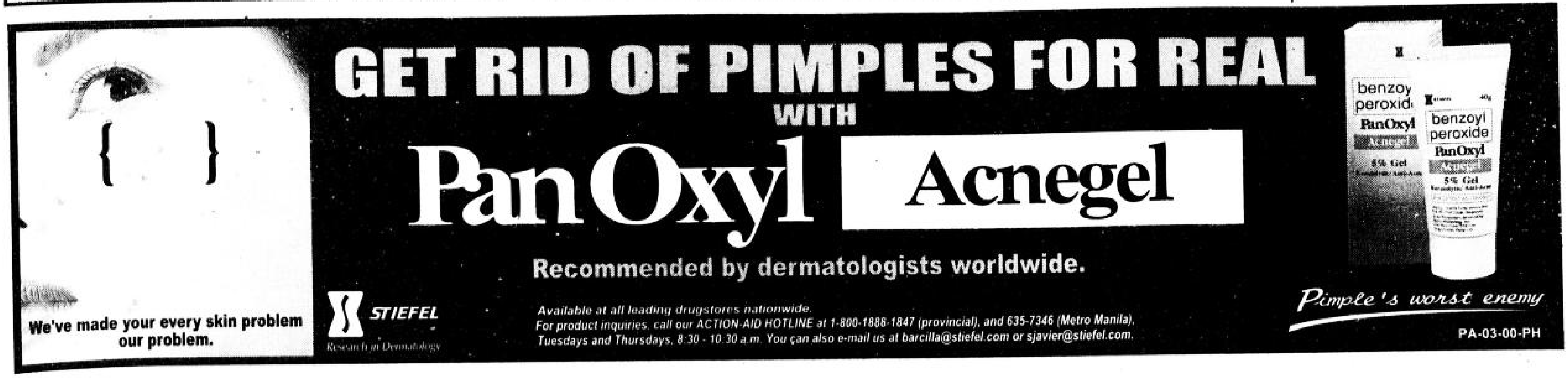
Present

THE TEEN CHAT SERIES
Schedule this week:

Date	Topic
February 14	No boyfriend? No date? No problem!
February 16	PROM beauty, fashion and etiquette tips
February 19	Tell us how you spent Valentine's Day!

Log on to www.candymag.com/chat for details.
Also sponsored by: Universe E-Lifestyle Cafe, KCFM 93.9 and Magic 89.9


Happy Valentine's Day
Order anything on Valentine's Day and get a chance to win rose candles for free.
Chowking 超群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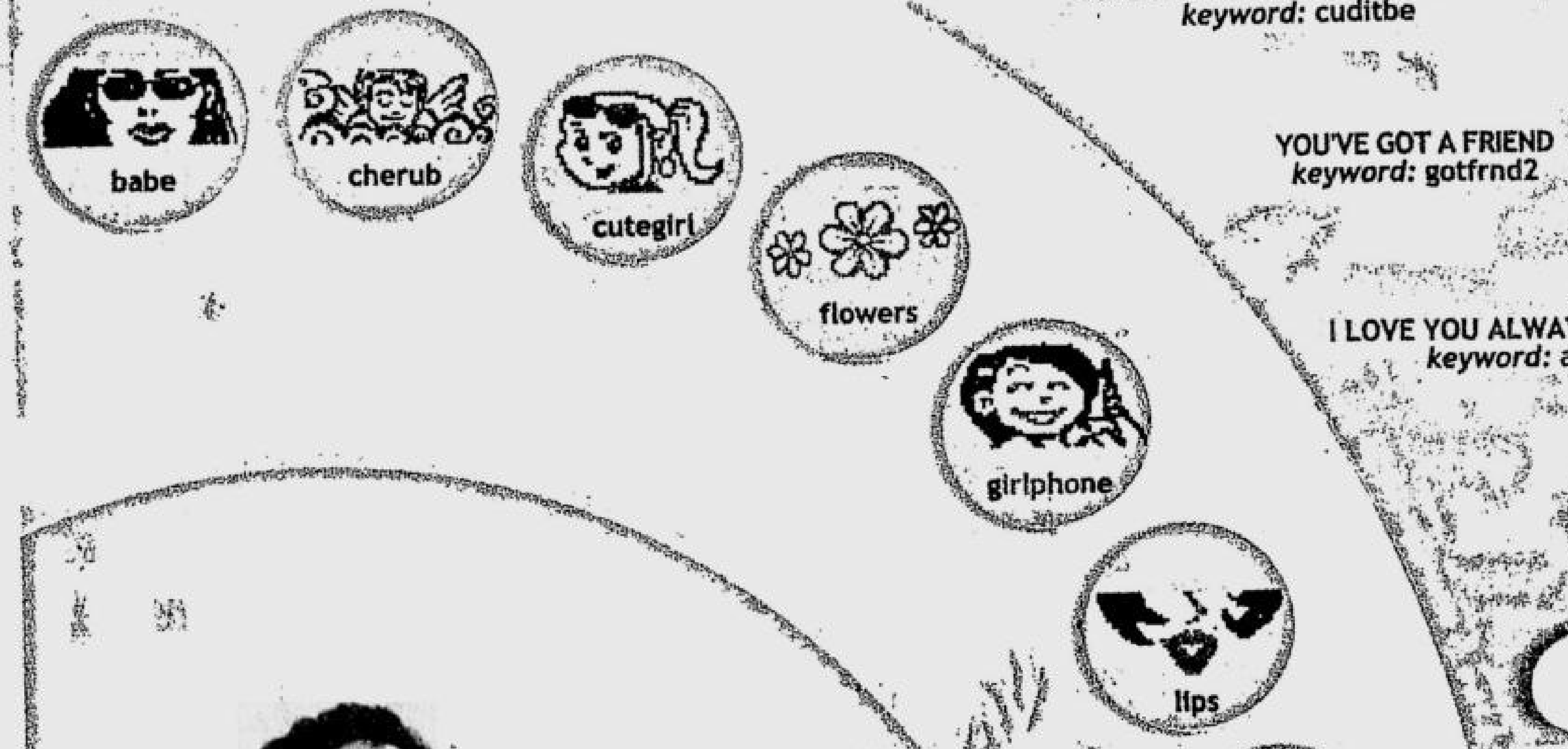
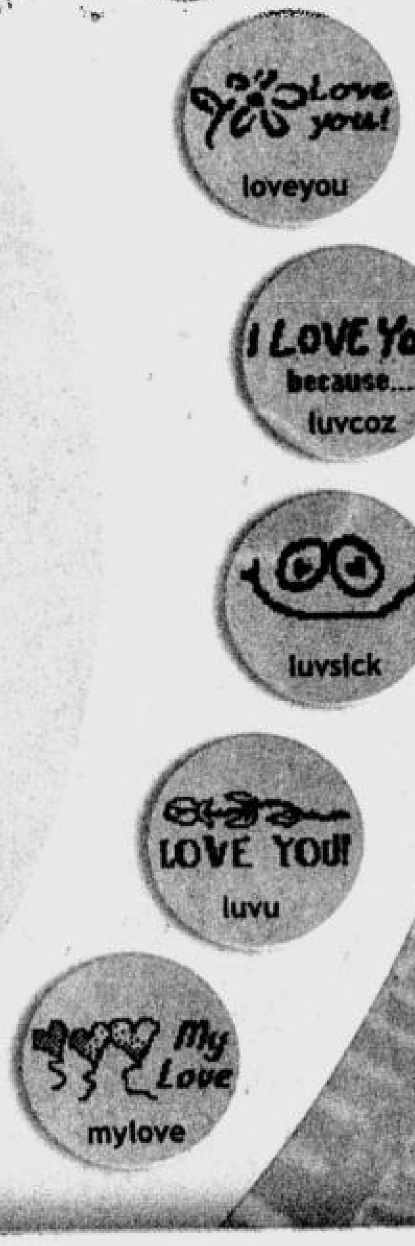
Text Cards





Serenade them with
GlobeTones

I LOVE YOUR SMILE
keyword: iloveyur

I JUST CALLED TO SAY I LOVE YOU
keyword: ijstcld

COULD IT BE I'M FALLING IN LOVE
keyword: cuditbe

YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND
keyword: gotfrnd2

COME ON OVER BABY
keyword: comeon

I LOVE YOU ALWAYS AND FOREVER
keyword: alwys4evr

HEAVEN'S WHAT I FEEL
keyword: watifeel

I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW
keyword: seeclear

IT MIGHT BE YOU
keyword: mightbu

WHAT MATTERS MOST
keyword: watmatrs

TWO HEARTS
keyword: 2hearts

UNCHAINED MELODY
keyword: unchained

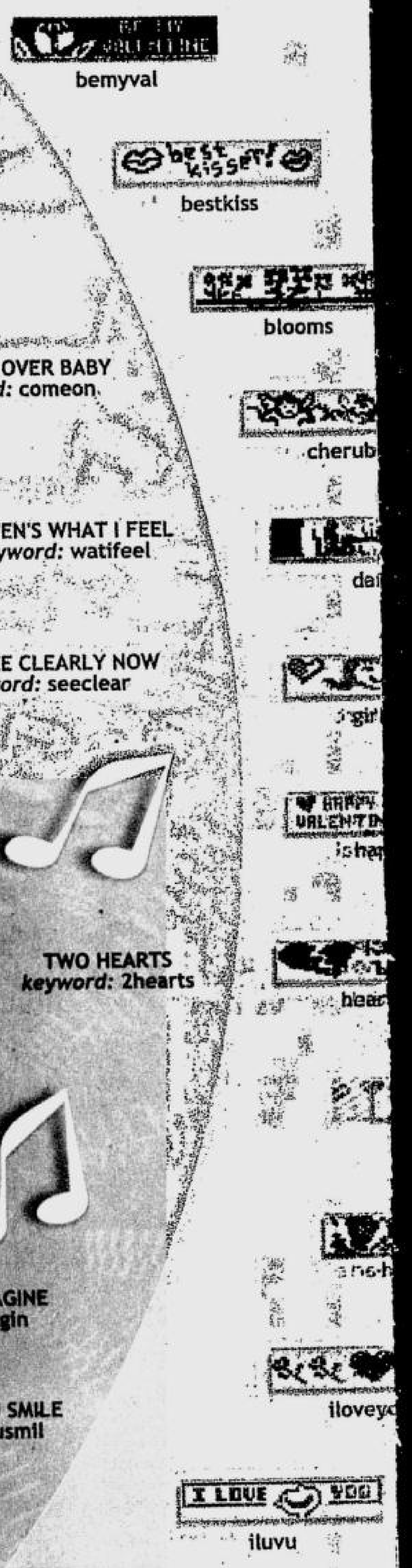
THE LOVE I LOST
keyword: lovelost

WHATEVER WE IMAGINE
keyword: weimagin

WHEN I SEE YOU SMILE
keyword: seeusmil

HEY
keyword: hey

Give them
lovely remind
GlobeIc



Greeting Card instructions:

a. Via *InfoText:*

1. After choosing your desired greeting card, key-in the following and send to 2356: CARD (code number + receiver's name + address +sender's name). All messages successfully sent will be charged.
2. You will receive a Text Message confirming your order.

REMINDER: Make sure you put a space between "CARD" and the code number. Put the "+" sign to separate the code number, receiver's name, address and sender's name. Use "/" in between location, street address, and city (do not put a space before and after "+" and "/" signs. Do not use the following symbols when keying-in your order: #,&,;,".

b. Via *GlobeXplore:*

1. Go to your GlobeXplore menu and click on BUY/SELL.
2. Click on GLOBECARDS and press SEND CARD.
3. Type in the following:
   - -Card code of your chosen card and press OK
   - -Recipient's Name and press OK
   - -Recipient's delivery address* and press OK
   - -Sender's name and press OK
   - -Your Valentine's message and press OK

   **Note: Put a "/" between the location, street address, and city. Do not put a space before and after the "/" sign.*
4. You will receive a Text Message confirming your order.

Rates	*Plan*	*PrePaid Plus*
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a. *Via InfoText:*

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   For phone display: L (keyword) (0917+Globe Handyphone number) (dedication of up to 6 words)

For caller group: I (keyword) (0917+Globe Handyphone number) (dedication of up to 6 words)

b. *Via GlobeXplore:*

1. Select the GlobeXplore menu and click Fun. Click on GlobeIcons and select Forward.
2. Choose whether you want to forward it as PHONE DISPLAY or CALLER GROUPS. Then type in the following: •Keyword of your desired icon and press OK • 7-digit Globe Handyphone number of the recipient and press OK • a short dedication and press OK

Rates	*Plan*	*PrePaid Plus*
Inquiry	*P2.00*	*P2.50*
Downloading & Forwarding	*P20.00*	*P25.00*

Note: You may use any handset to forward GlobeIcons. Just make sure it is sent to a Nokia 3210, 5110 (ver. 4.59 and up), 6110, 6150, 7110, 8210, 8250, 8810, 8850, 3310, 6210 and 9110. Nokia 3210, 3310 and 5110 can only accept phone displays.

c. *Via WAP:*

1. Log-on to Globe's H down and click GL
2. Click on ENTER to For new users, and follow instruc a registered user users can type in Globe Handyphon password to log
3. Click on SEND LOG and click Valent
4. Click on SELECT an to your desired pho Then choose PREVI
5. Type in the Globe H number of the recip SEND.

with your loved one this Valentine's Day!

Warm their hearts
Globe Valentine Cards

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kissing

kisskiss

love

loveeyes

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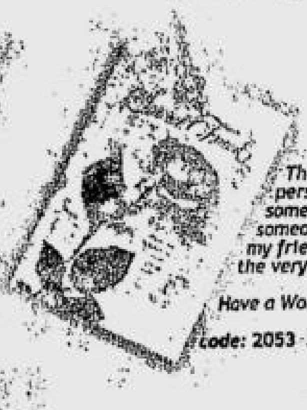
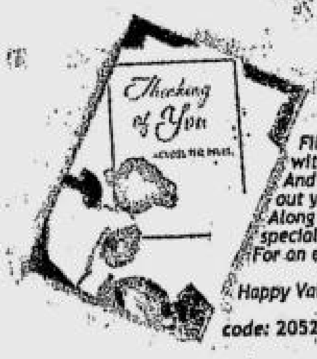
hearts



They show what a warm,
person you are—
someone I'm glad to know,
someone I'm very happy to have
my friend, someone who deserves
the very best that life can give.

Have a Wonderful Valentine's Day

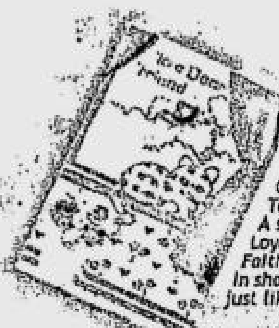
code: 2053



Filled this card
with friendly thoughts
And mailed it
out your way
Along with
special wishes
For an extra-happy day!

Happy Valentine's Day

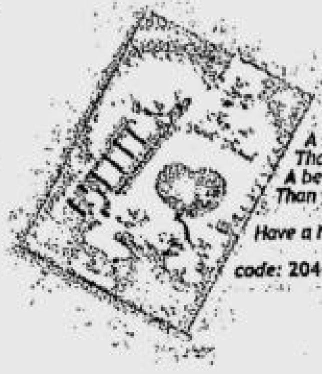
code: 2052



A special friend
is a friend who shares
One who listens, one who cares
One who's quick to lend a hand
To ease a hurt, to understand—
A special friend is a blending of
Loyalty and cheer and love
Faith and trust and kindness, too
In short, it's someone
just like you!

Happy Valentine's Day
Happiness Always

code: 2049



A special Valentine to say
That there could never be
A better friend to anyone
Than you have been to me

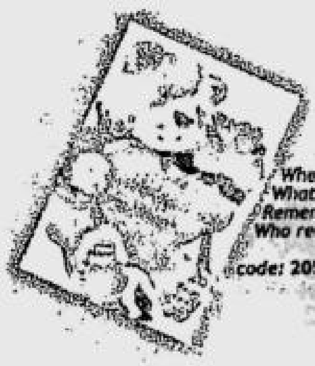
Have a Nice Valentine's Day

code: 2046

This Valentine's coming
especially to say
Whatever you do
have a very nice day,
Enjoy every minute
and when the
day's through
Hope nice things
keep happening
especially for you!

Happy Valentine's Day

code: 2055



Wherever you go,
Whatever you do,
Remember there's someone
Who really loves you!

code: 2050

A Valentine remembrance
seems to be the nicest way
Of showing those
we care for most
They're thought about today

Happy Valentine's Day

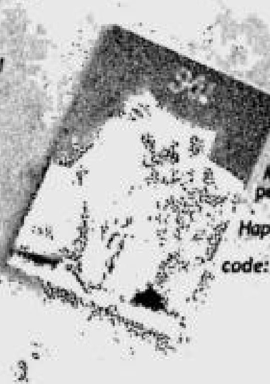
code: 2047

When someone's like you—
Very thoughtful and kind
Doing nice things so often
With others in mind...

Then it isn't surprising
That other folks, too
Should love any chance
To wish good things for you!

Happy Valentine's Day!

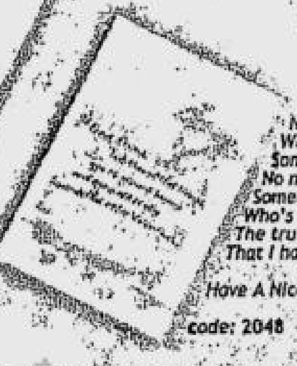
code: 2056



Valentine greetings
are for people who
Make life a lot brighter—
people like you!

Happy Valentine's Day

code: 2054



Now and then we meet a friend
Who's fine in every way—
Someone we like to be with
No matter what the day
Someone who's understanding
Who's always thoughtful, too—
The truly wonderful kind of friend
That I have found in you

Have A Nice Valentine's Day

code: 2048

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N (keyword) (0917+ Globe Handyphone number) (dedication of up to 6 words)

b. Via GlobeXplore:

1. Select the GlobeXplore menu and click Fun. Click on GlobeTones and select Forward.
2. Type in the following: • keyword of your desired ringtone and press OK • 7-digit Globe Handyphone number (include 0917) of the recipient and press OK • a short dedication and press OK

Rates	*Plan*	*PrePaid Plus*
Inquiry	*₱2.00*	*₱2.50*
Downloading & Forwarding	*₱20.00*	*₱25.00*

Note: You may use **any** handset to forward GlobeTones. Just make sure that you send the ringtone to a Nokia 3210, 6110, 6150, 7110, 8210, 8250, 8810, 8850, 3310 and 6210.

c. Via WAP:

1. Log-on to Globe's Homepage. Scroll down and click GLOBEINTERACTIVE.
2. Click on ENTER for current users. For new users, click on REGISTER and follow instructions to become a registered user. Registered users can type in their 7-digit Globe Handyphone number and password to log-in.
3. Click on SEND RINGTONE. Then scroll down and click SPECIAL.
4. Click on SELECT and scroll down to your desired ringtone. Click TO and input the Globe Handyphone number of the recipient. Press SEND to forward. You will receive a confirmation via Text Message.

Text Cards instructions:

a. Via InfoText:

1. To download, type in: TC (keyword); send to 2301 then wait for reply; and select either show, save or discard.
2. To send or forward, type in: TC (keyword)(0917+Globe Handyphone number) (sender's name) (dedication of up to 6 words); and send to 2301. Wait for reply.

b. Via GlobeXplore Campus Pack:

1. Click **Menu** on your phone and scroll down to **GlobeXplore Campus Pack.**
2. Click on **Fun** and select **Picture Msg.**
3. To send the **Text Card** to yourself, click on **Download.**
4. To send a **Text Card** to a friend, click on **Forward.**
5. Type in the keyword of the **Text Card**, or click on **Categories** for other options.
6. You or your friend will receive the requested **Text Card.**

Rates	*Plan*	*PrePaid Plus*
Inquiry	*₱2.00*	*₱2.50*
Downloading	*₱20.00*	*₱25.00*

Note: You may use **any** handset to forward Text Cards. Just make sure that you send the icon to a Nokia 3210, 3310, 6210, 8210, 8250, 8850.

Log on to www.globeinteractive.com.ph for a complete list of text cards, tones, icons, and greeting cards.

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FIESTA GREETINGS says it best!
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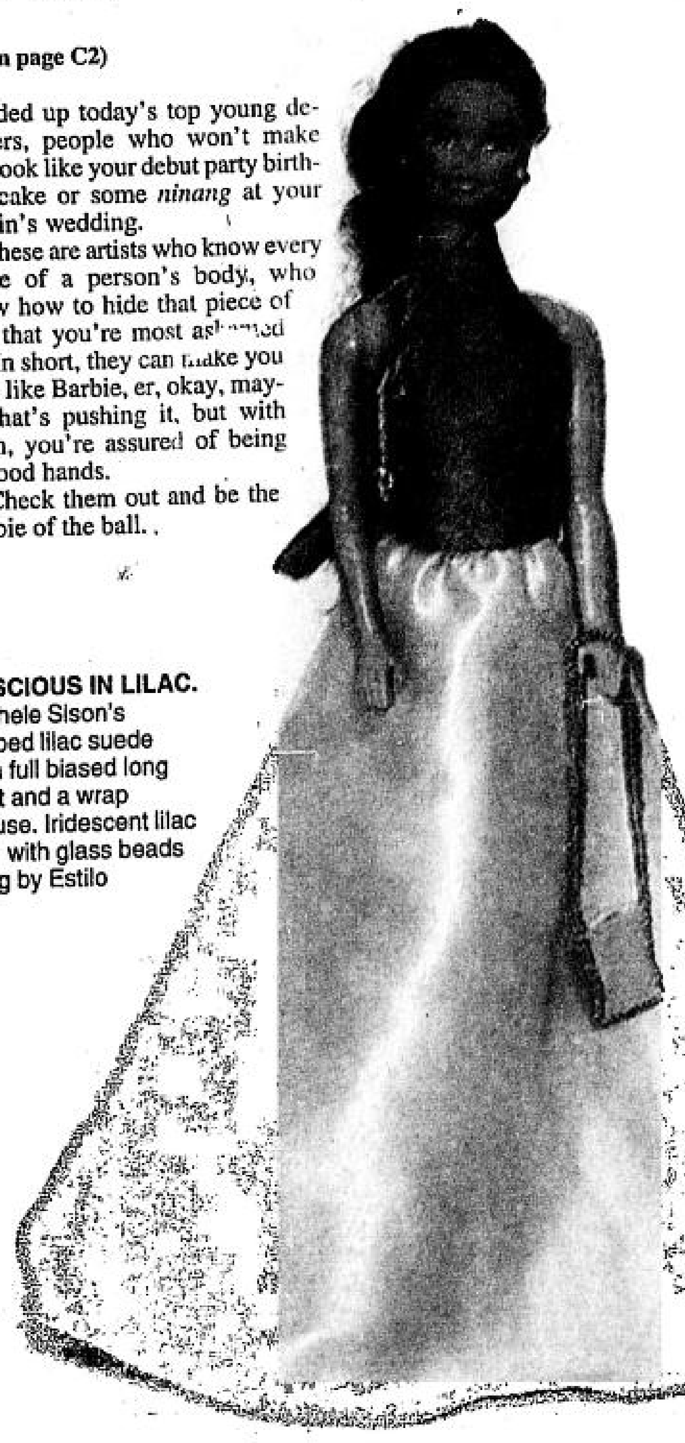
Get all dolled up this prom season

(From page C2)

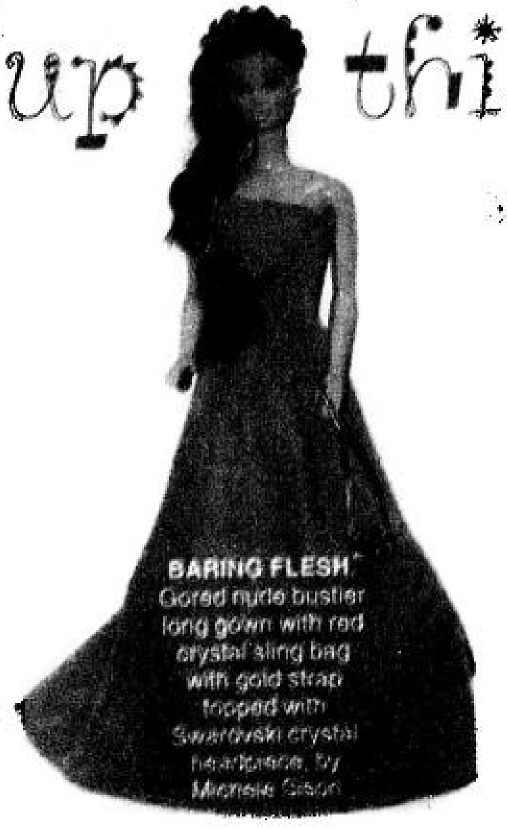
rounded up today's top young designers, people who won't make you look like your debut party birthday cake or some *ninang* at your cousin's wedding.

These are artists who know every curve of a person's body, who know how to hide that piece of flab that you're most ashamed of. In short, they can make you look like Barbie, er, okay, maybe that's pushing it, but with them, you're assured of being in good hands.

Check them out and be the Barbie of the ball. .



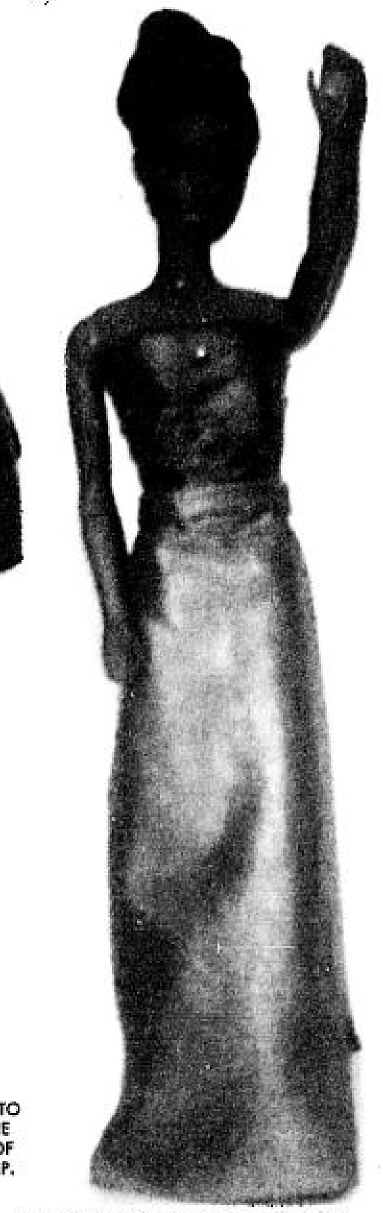
LUSCIOUS IN LILAC. Michele Sison's draped lilac suede with full biased long skirt and a wrap blouse. Iridescent lilac bag with glass beads sling by Estilo



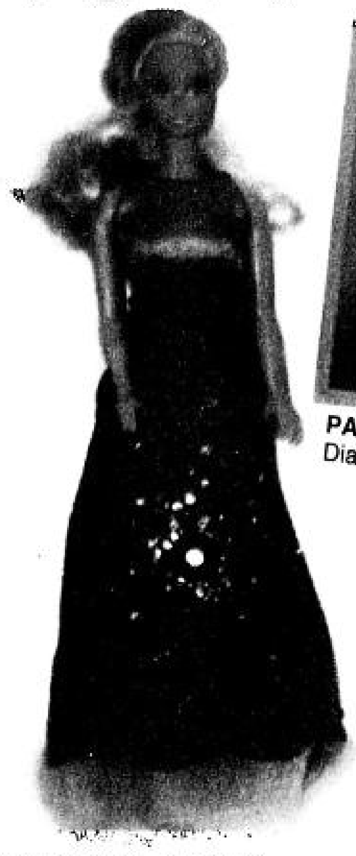
BARING FLESH. Gored nude bustier long gown with red crystal sling bag with gold strap topped with Swarovski crystal headpiece, by Michele Sison

MICHELE Sison

PHOTOS BY JASON DOPLITO
SPECIAL THANKS FOR THE BARBIES TO MAYE YAO OF RICHWELL TRADING CORP.



BUBBLE-GUM BABE. Patrice Ramos-Diaz's iridescent green floral silk jacquard with pink Swarovski crystals and pink faux leather skirt



PROM QUEEN. Iridescent turquoise and purple silk organza gown with rose detail and beadwork and scallop cutwork hem by Patrice Ramos-Diaz

PATRICE Ramos-Diaz

DESIGNERS' DIRECTORY

Katrina Goulbourn
Silk Cocoon, New World
Renaissance Hotel
Shopping Arcade, Esperanza
Street corner Makati Avenue
Tel. 811-6856

Michele Sison
29 Abueva St., Corinthian
Gardens, QC
Tel. 633-0744/52

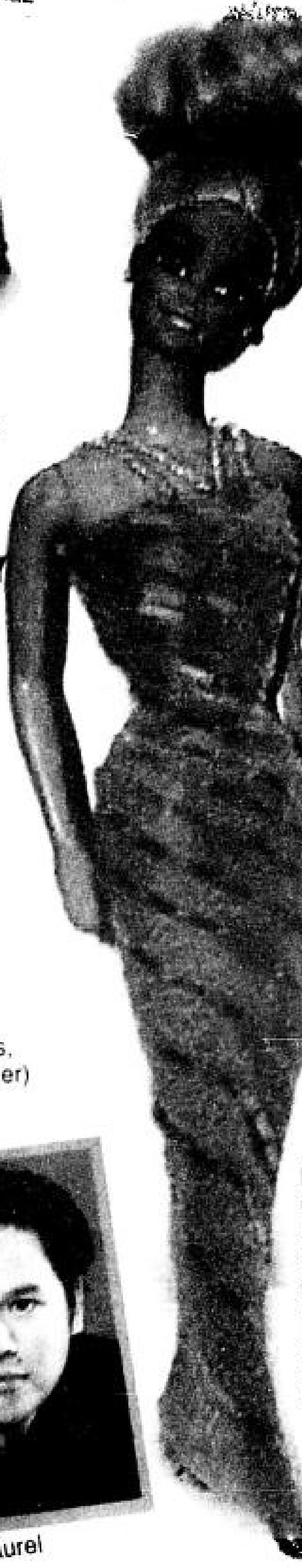
For shoes and bags and other stuff, go to
Al Estilo de...
2/F Rockwell Lifestyle Center
2 Hidalgo corner Estrella Streets,
Makati City (atop Brother's Burger)
Tel. 729-1516

Patrice Ramos-Diaz
3/F Rodil
Building, Henry
Javier Street,
Pasig City
Tel. 671-2293/
5359

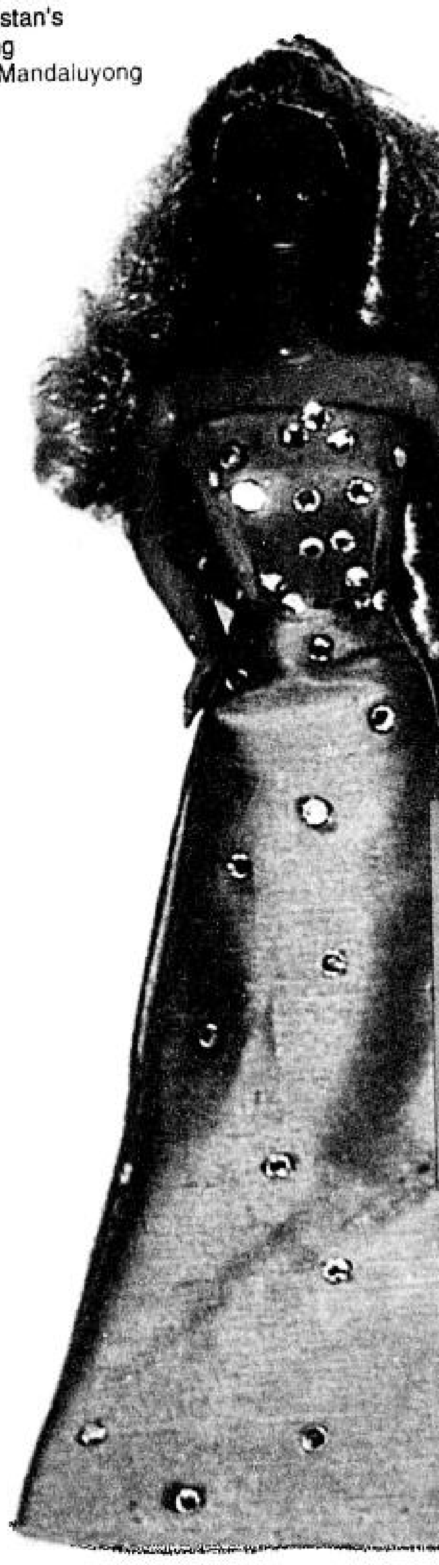
Rajo Laurel
6060 Palma St.,
Makati City
Tel. 895-6426 or
890-5323

Rhett Eala
5/F Rustan's
Building
Edsa, Mandaluyong

RAJO Laurel

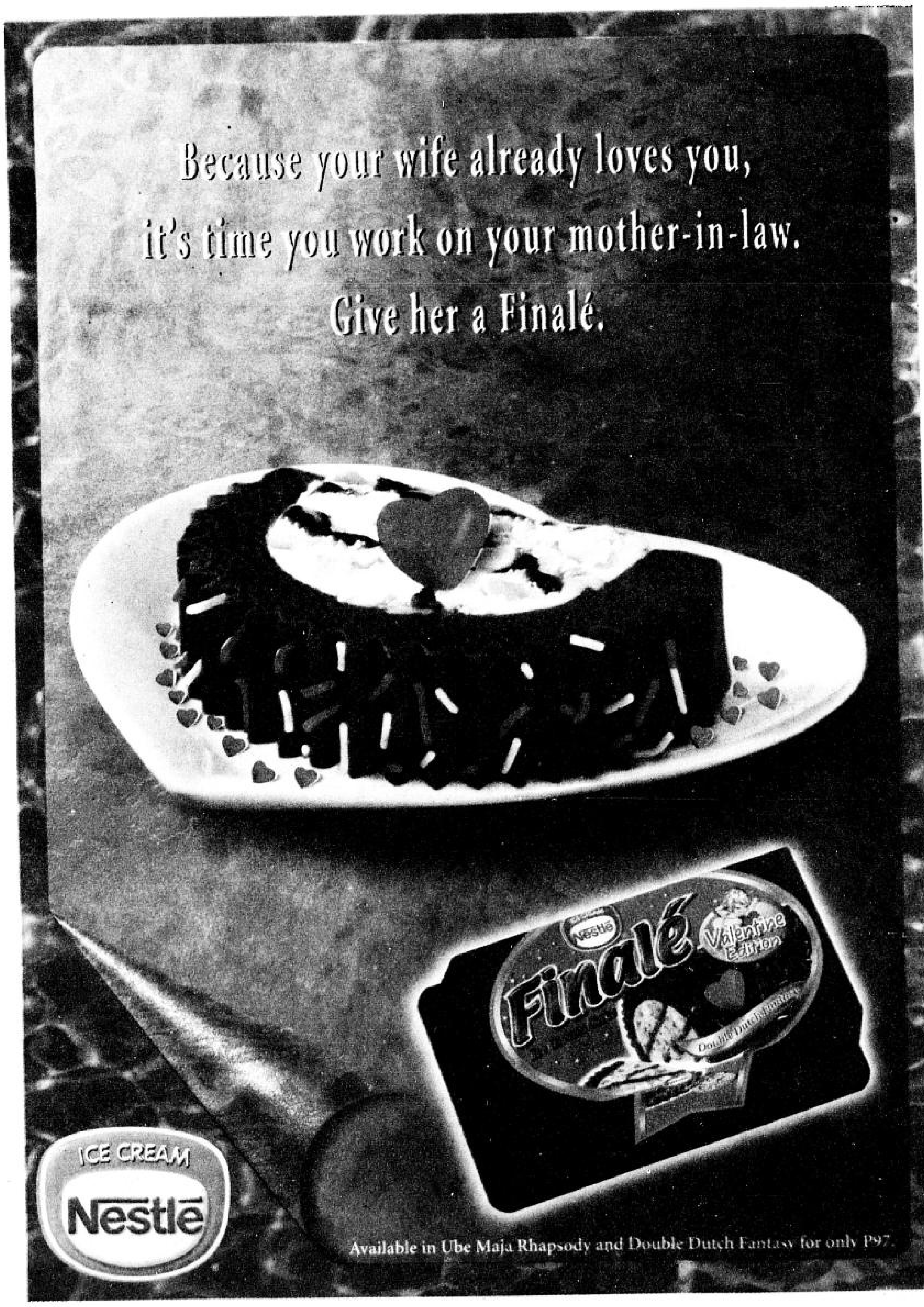


IN NAKED GLORY. Laurel's simple column in nude tulle enhanced by diagonal paillettes



RHETT Eala

APPLE OF MY EYE. Rhett Eala's strapless gown in pistachio dupioni with Swarovski crystal beads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ICE CREAM
Nestle
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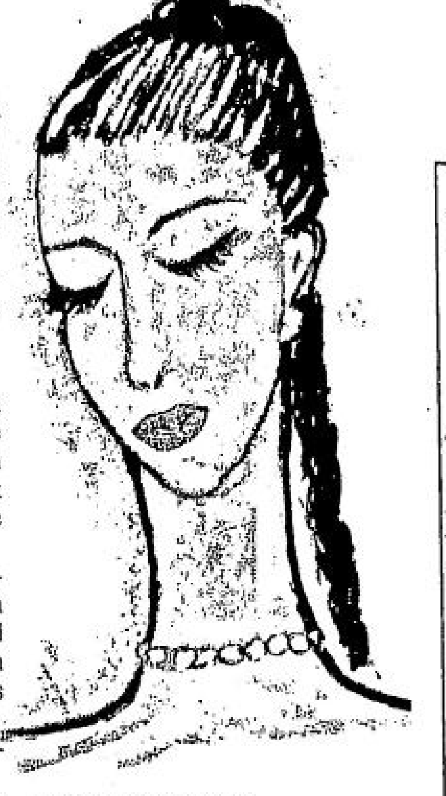
Makeup or break

Make it really your night by correct makeup.
Makeover guru Henri Calayag shows you how

(From page C2)



Tim Yap **PEACH** Melba look

"For that do-it-yourself sun-kissed look, use earth-tone shades,", suggests Henri. Golden shimmer to copper and saffron orange on the eyes, plus a dust of bronzer all over the face and yellow trimmed eye makeup.

Top it off with copper gold lipstick with sienna as base and be ready to shine.

Peach Melba look

For La Calayag's Peach Melba look, the focus is on luminous eye makeup. For the eyes, it's celadon green. Meanwhile, it's peacock green as eye liner and deep blue green as mascara.

For Melba's lips, accent on fuchsia, deep pink or powder pink with shimmer. The face must be dusted with pink translucent powder. Blush right on the temple of the cheeks for that pinkish debutante look.

So, bid fairy godmother goodbye, the prom awaits you.

Go romantically tribal at Hutu's

ON VALENTINE'S Day, Hutu's Hut Restaurant and Bar in all its "tribal-ity," shall open its doors to all you couples who seek for the finest bleu-plate menu specials guaranteed to complement all your other plans and escapades on the day of hearts.

Among the specials are the Hot and Sour Penne Soup to set off the mood, followed by a mouthwatering platter of Salmon and Ostrich Carpaccio and seconded by prime cut Fillet Mignon on a bed of Pesto Risotto. Finally, a happy ending courtesy of that ever so rich Crème Brulée with Fresh Strawberries in Balsamic Vinegar.

A glass of premium red wine with cheese and crackers will be thrown in compliments of the Hutu's Tribe.

Where else can there be such an assembly of fine dining food greats set in a unique tribal mood for only P499 per person?

V-Day at Café de Malate

CAFÉ de Malate is offering today a Valentine's Day special for two at only P500.

The special package includes dinner, mixed drinks or beer and free red roses for the ladies.

The Winning Divas will be on stage at the Jazz Bar. A live band will play the latest in ballroom music or disco tunes.

OH SO GOOD!
At the Snack Exchange
Have a heart!
Boxed chocolate-y treats for only
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SM DEPARTMENT STORE
We've got it all for you!
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Akala mo ikaw lang ang may Bitbit?
From February 1 up to February 18, 2001, get a free Nestle Crunch Chocolate Bar for every purchase of a Black Velvet premium cake and get a free Nestle Kitkat Bar for every purchase of a Triple Delight Cake.
Happy Valentine's Day!
Triple Delight Cake
Black Velvet Premium Cake
Goldilocks
How thoughtful. How Goldilocks.
Per-DOH BFAD Permit No.0005 Series of 2001

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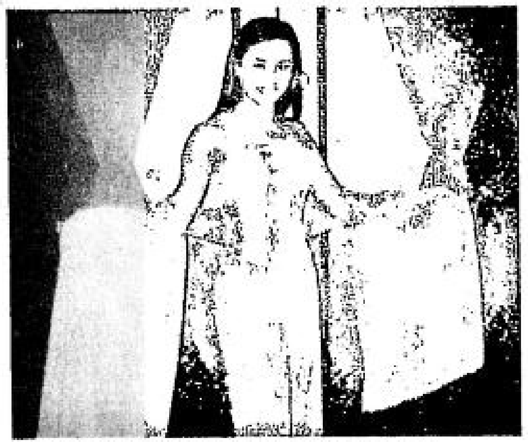
LIFESTYLE

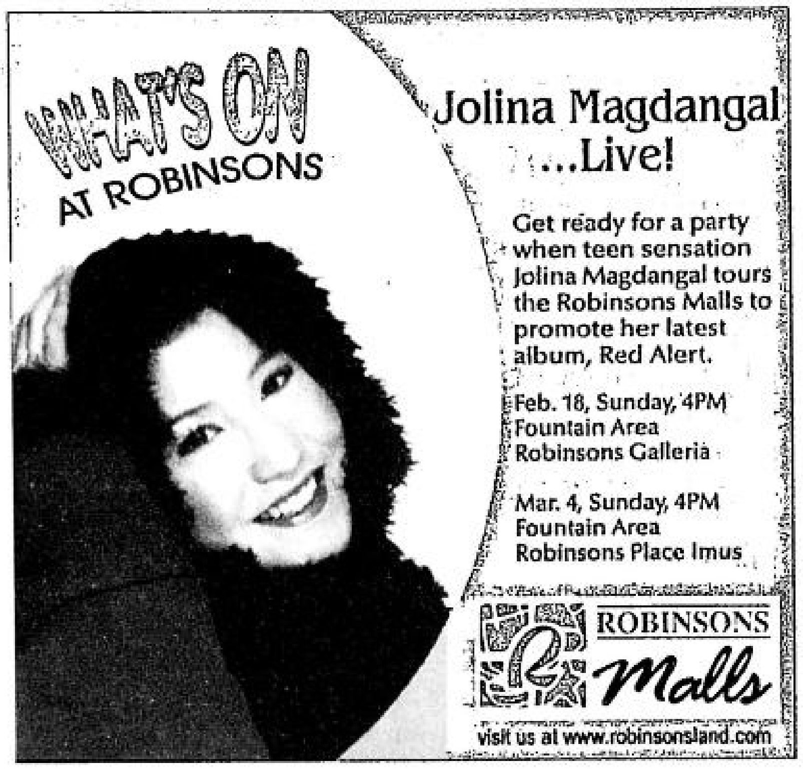
When the Spirit is more than willing

EYE candy. Beads, glitters, flowing gowns in all colors, high school girls looking like princesses and the usually rowdy boys acting like gentlemen. This was the magical scene that greeted 2bU! when we crashed the high school prom of College of Holy Spirit last Feb 3. Several couples gamely posed and played around as our cameras clicked away. Here's a sneak peek at what went on that night:

(More photos on page D2)



JANTU Revilla in her Rajo Laurel gown



WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS

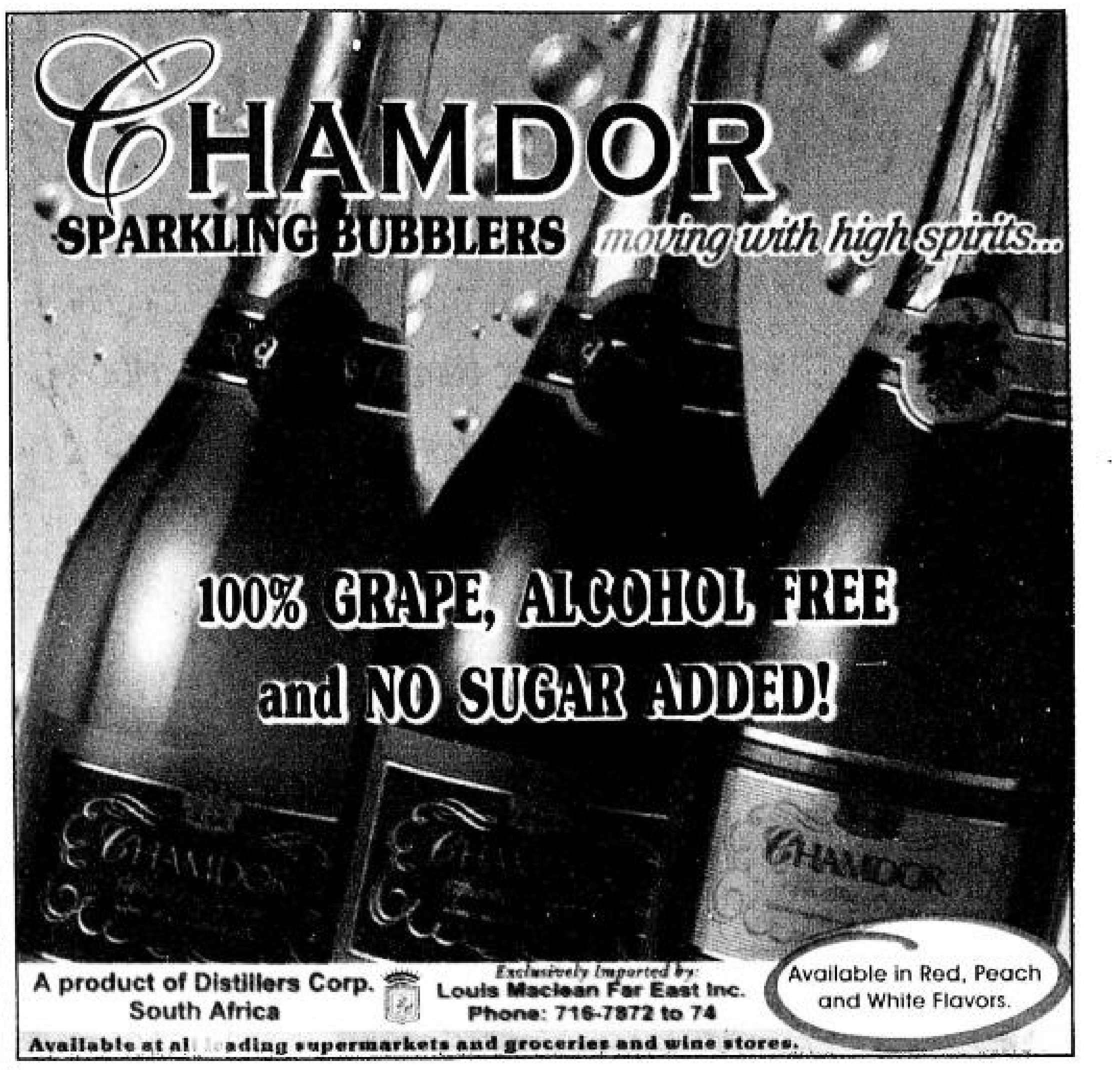
Jolina Magdangal ...Live!

Get ready for a party when teen sensation Jolina Magdangal tours the Robinsons Malls to promote her latest album, Red Alert.

Feb. 18, Sunday, 4PM
Fountain Area
Robinsons Galleria

Mar. 4, Sunday, 4PM
Fountain Area
Robinsons Place Imus

ROBINSONS Malls
visit us at www.robinsonsland.com



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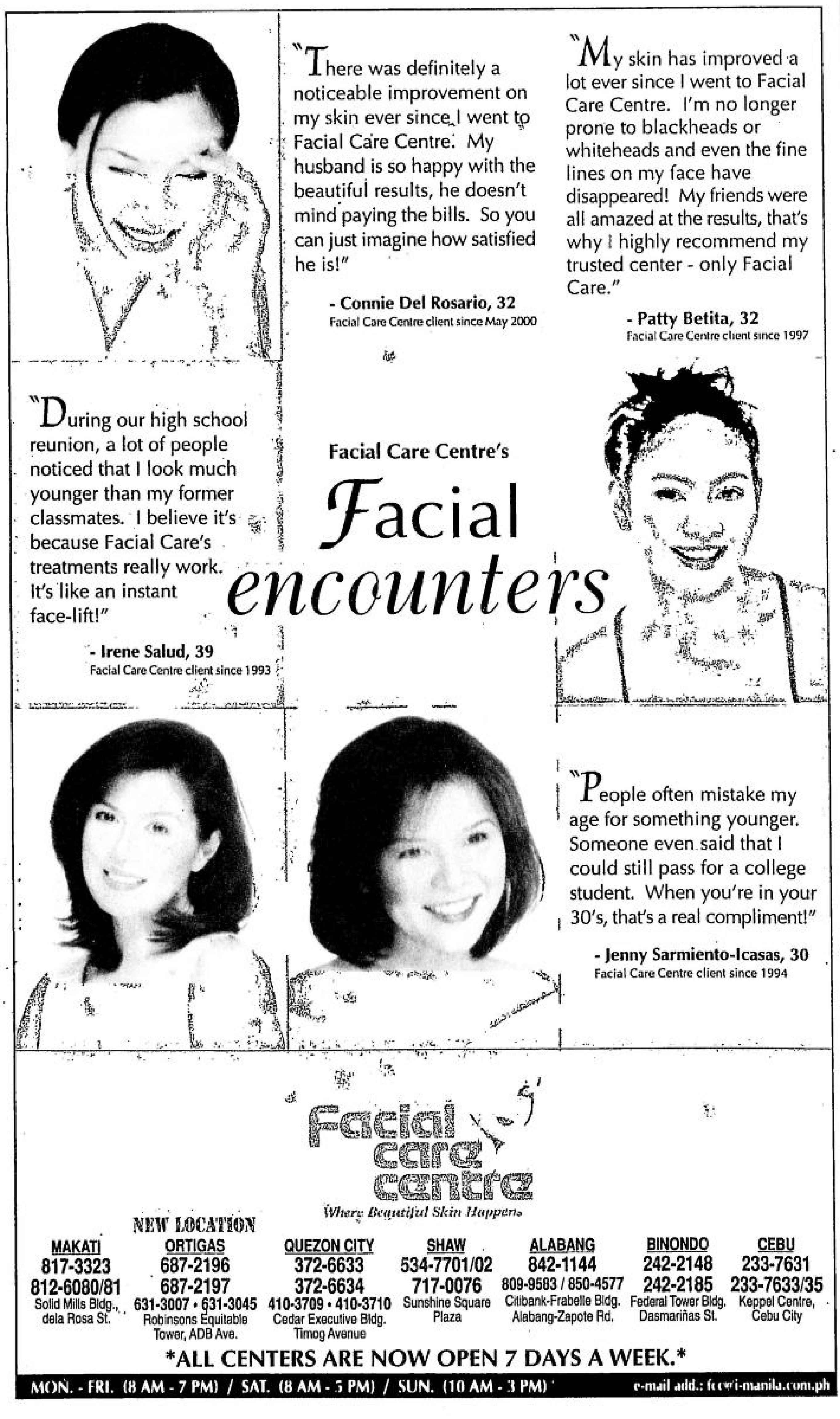
This Valentine's Day,
love with TRUST

Angela Velez

Kung mahal mo siya...
maging responsable, may proteksiyon.
Gumamit ng TRUST QUALITY CONDOMS.

TRUST QUALITY CONDOMS
Ang matibay at maaasahang proteksiyon.



"There was definitely a noticeable improvement on my skin ever since I went to Facial Care Centre. My husband is so happy with the beautiful results, he doesn't mind paying the bills. So you can just imagine how satisfied he is!"

- Connie Del Rosario, 32
Facial Care Centre client since May 2000

"My skin has improved a lot ever since I went to Facial Care Centre. I'm no longer prone to blackheads or whiteheads and even the fine lines on my face have disappeared! My friends were all amazed at the results, that's why I highly recommend my trusted center - only Facial Care."

- Patty Betita, 32
Facial Care Centre client since 1997

"During our high school reunion, a lot of people noticed that I look much younger than my former classmates. I believe it's because Facial Care's treatments really work. It's like an instant face-lift!"

- Irene Salud, 39
Facial Care Centre client since 1993

Facial Care Centre's
Facial encounters

"People often mistake my age for something younger. Someone even said that I could still pass for a college student. When you're in your 30's, that's a real compliment!"

- Jenny Sarmiento-Icasas, 30
Facial Care Centre client since 1994

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812-6080/81	687-2197	372-6634	717-0076	809-9583 / 850-4577	242-2185	233-7633/35
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.	631-3007 • 631-3045 Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.	410-3709 • 410-3710 Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue	Sunshine Square Plaza	Citibank-Frabelle Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd.	Federal Tower Bldg. Dasmariñas St.	Keppel Centre, Cebu City

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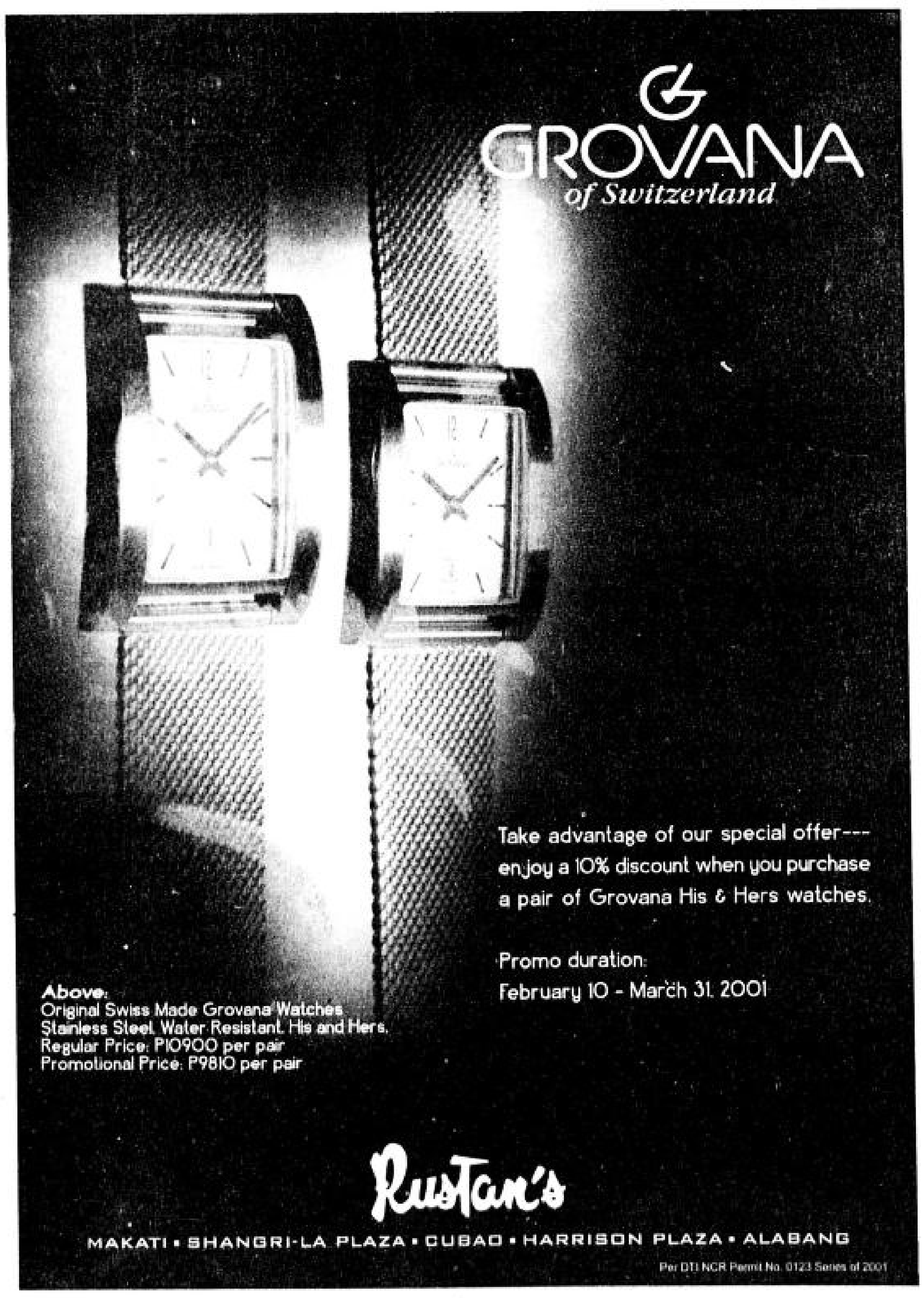
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM) e-mail add.: fcc@i-manila.com.ph



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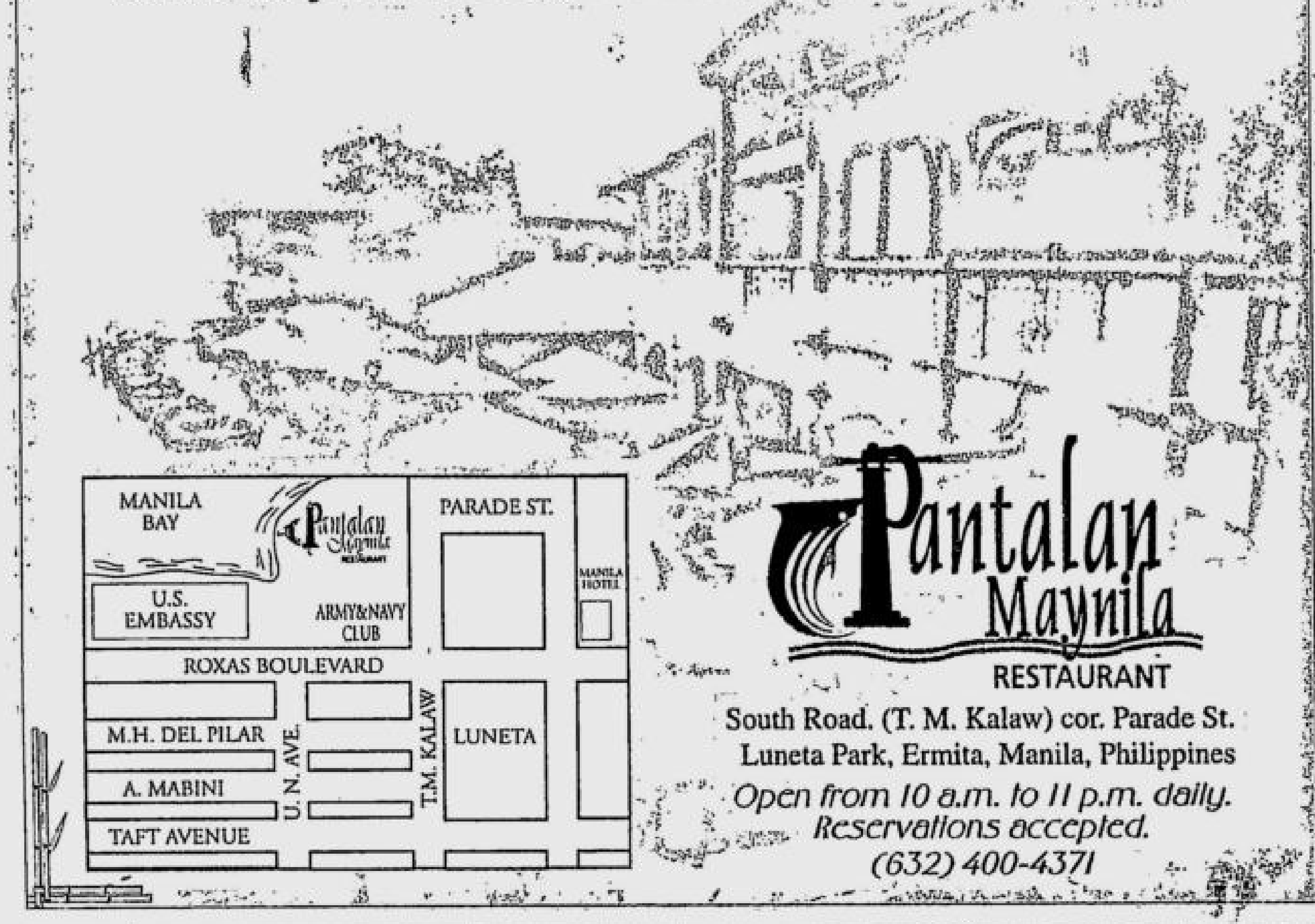
Located along Luneta's breezy boardwalk, near the Army & Navy Club.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(FROM LEFT) Katrina, Sieg, Joan, Carlo, Yael, Nice, Lora and Arlo

When the Spirit is more than willing

SHOES OFF. The girls give their feet a break.

BACK off! They're taken.

The good, old-fashioned prom is alive and well, thank you

CLOWNS IN SUITS. Yael gives Sieg a kiss.

ALL primped and ready for the prom.

BOYS and girls line up in a row.

IT'S midnight and they're still pretty.

Souprise!

Campbell's
CONDENSED SOUP
Cream of Mushroom

For the soup lover that he is, a steady supply of Campbell's and your love.

This Valentine's Day,
get the perfect flowers
with...

DIFFERENT. On prom night, you have decided to look like you're marching to a different drum. If your mantra is "look different," then this apple-green sleeveless wraparound and purple shantung ball skirt ensemble by Rhett Eala of DUE should be more than enough. A definite plus: you can use either the blouse or the skirt and mix and match it for other important occasions. (Top is P1,950; skirt is P3,950)

PROM QUEEN MATERIAL (and 2bU's pick). This is the unanimous choice among the 2bUI's correspondents for the girl who wishes to be the prom queen. No more fancy trinkets or beaded shawl as accessory. Just a bloody gorgeous date and you're all set.

PHOTOS BY JASON DOPLITO

Queenly for a night

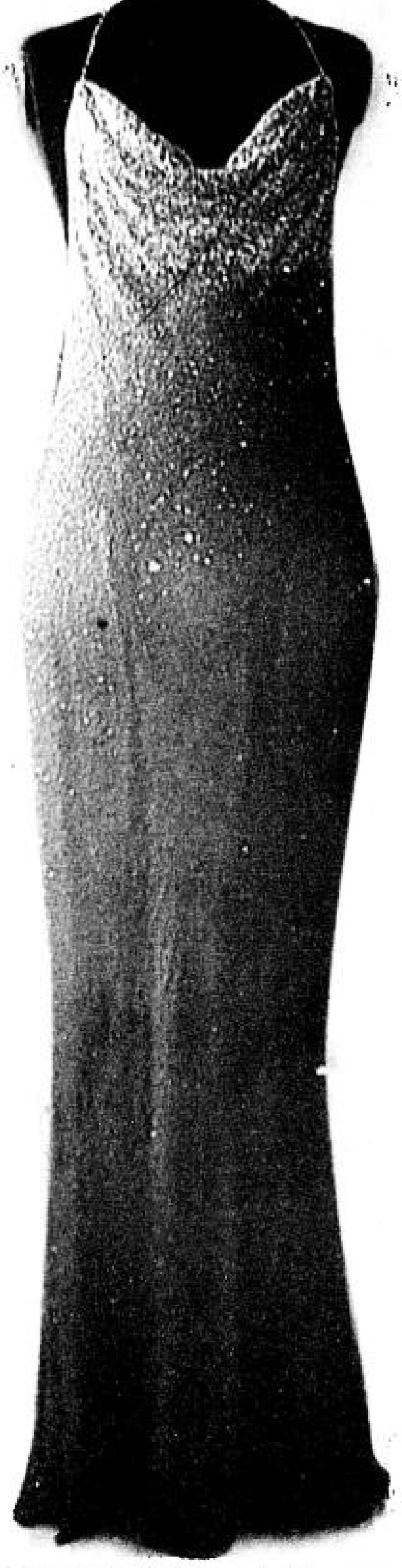
The magic of Cinderella can be vours. off the rack

THE GOWN.

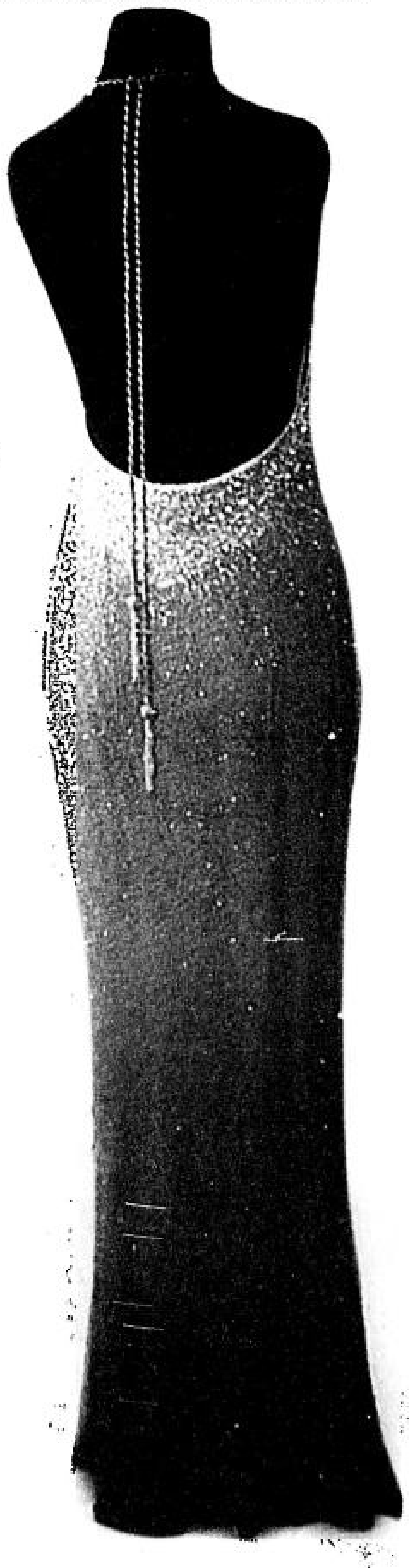
All year long, and for some, all their life, girls have spent much time thinking about the dress to wear on prom night. Next to the wedding gown, the prom dress is the most thought about, the most planned, the most contemplated outfit in a girl's life. Let us be honest, every girl has fantasized of transforming from an ugly duckling to the prom queen, or for that matter, the certified head-turner for the night.

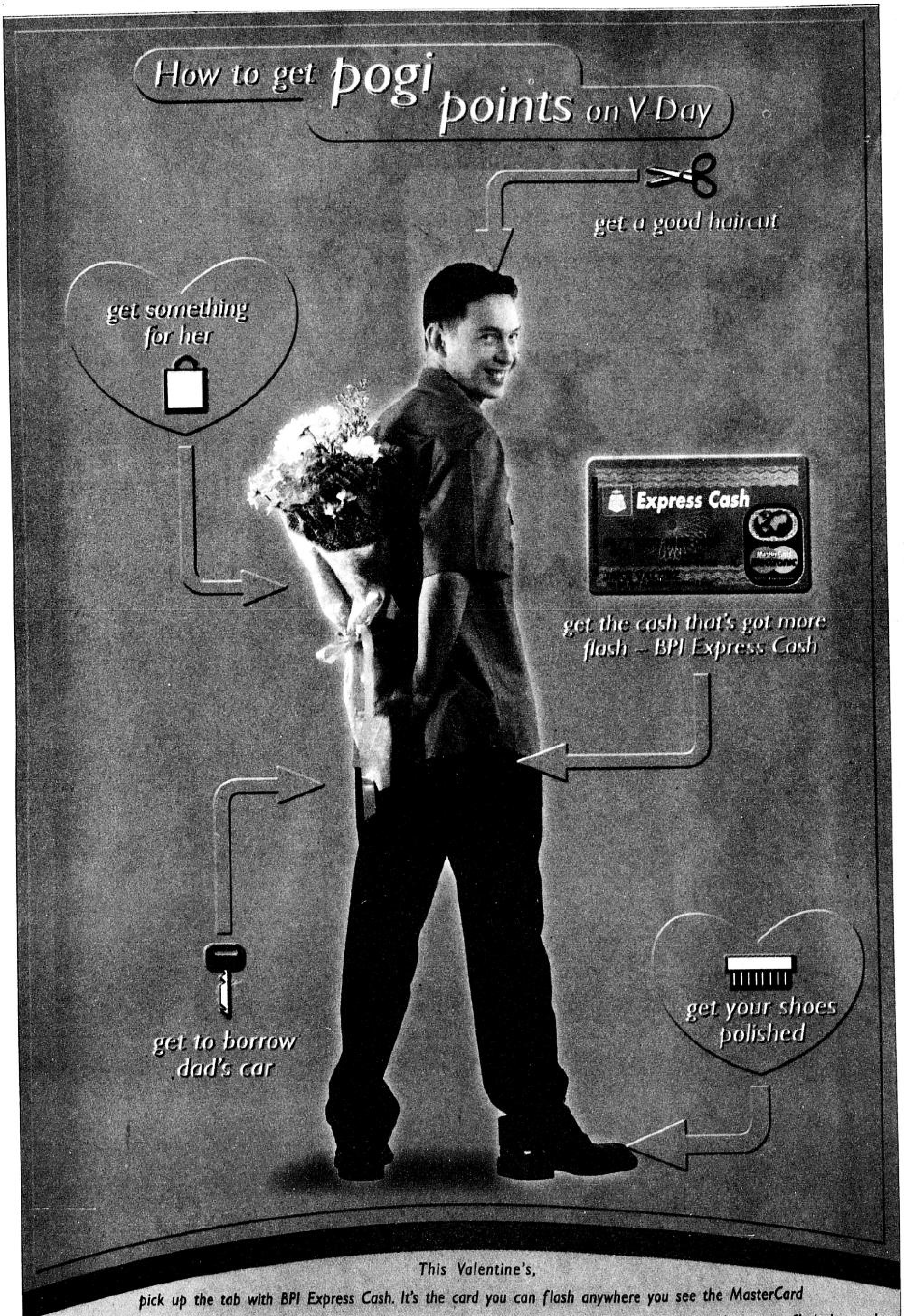
It's a make-or-break situation. Pick the

QUEENLY/p.D6



VAVAVOOM SEXY. Prom night is your coming-out night. You're shedding off that *pa-tweetums* image, at least on your prom night. Wear this silver-beaded backless gown and watch the boys drool. (Gown is at P20,500)





How to get pogi points on V-Day
get a good haircut
get something for her
Express Cash
get the cash that's got more flash – BPI Express Cash
get to borrow dad's car
get your shoes polished

This Valentine's,

pick up the tab with BPI Express Cash. It's the card you can flash anywhere you see the MasterCard Electronic Seal. Flash it to buy her flowers, treat her to a cozy dinner, and have that nice chat over coffee. Because it's got more flash than cash, you're sure to earn those pogi points. So get ready to flash this V-Day.

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Just load your SMART Money Card and use it with your SMART GSM celfone to order flowers from ***Holland Tulips*** and ***Golden Blossoms.***

You can do all that without going to these flower shops at all. If you still don't have your SMART Money Card, just go to your nearest SMART dealer or telecenter and avail of the SMART Money SIM Pack for only P990.00.

SMART Money Card—your perfect solution to a hassle-free Valentine's Day.

SMART Money

Load it up. Live it up.

You can also use your SMART Money Card for over-the-counter purchases in all flower shops, boutiques, malls and *tiangges* bearing the SMART Money and MasterCard Electronic logos. Call us for inquiries at **845-7777**.

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10 tunes to finally dethrone the 'King and Queen of Hearts'

By Cheryl Tiu
2bu! Correspondent

EVERYONE'S all giddy. The Prom King and Queen have just been announced and now the couple is to step down to the dance floor to begin the first slow dance of the night. But then, as the starting melody fills the entire ballroom, you cringe inwardly. It's the "King and Queen of Hearts"—again! They played that on your sophomore's night, at last year's prom, at every darn formal you went to.

Oh, well. Just right before the song ends, your date asks you if you want to dance to the next song. You muster a smile and hope to God that there's a different slow song on the playlist tonight.

So before all these happen at your prom, here are 10 songs that you might want to consider—hey, it's a glorious sight to see couples swaying in each other's arms while their senses (particularly their eardrums) are being appeased (translation: A lot of people may be sick of Brian McKnight and Voices of Theory à la "Say It" by now).

"Incomplete" *(Sisqo)*—This isn't surprising. Most of you probably already have this song in mind.

"Crash Into Me" *(Dave Matthews Band)*—With irregular beats prancing throughout, this will make a good unconventional slow-dance song or not-so-slow-dance song.

"Sway" *(Bic Runga)*—This is in the "American Pie" soundtrack. Enough said.

"My Everything" *(98°)*—Didn't the sweet sight of Nick Lachey and Jessica Simpson dancing in each other's arms in the video make you wish you had someone you could do the same with? Well, here's your chance.

"At Your Best (You Are love)" *(Aaliyah)*—Even though this was way back in 1994, Aaliyah's rendition of this classic could get more of the spotlight it deserves.

"Miss You Love" *(Silverchair)*—Who says rock has no place on the dance floor?

"Runaway" *(The Corrs)*—Come on, who doesn't love this song?

"I'll Be" *(Edwin McCain)*—I still don't understand how everyone's favorite intelligently written courtship song never made it to the slow-dance list all this time.

"I'll Make Love to You" *(Boyz II Men)*—Who can argue with this one? Besides, we all miss this song already.

"I'm Gonna Love You Forever" *(Jessica Simpson)*—This powerful ballad is the epitome of a romantic slow-dance song.

Email the author at crownsoda@edsamail.com.ph

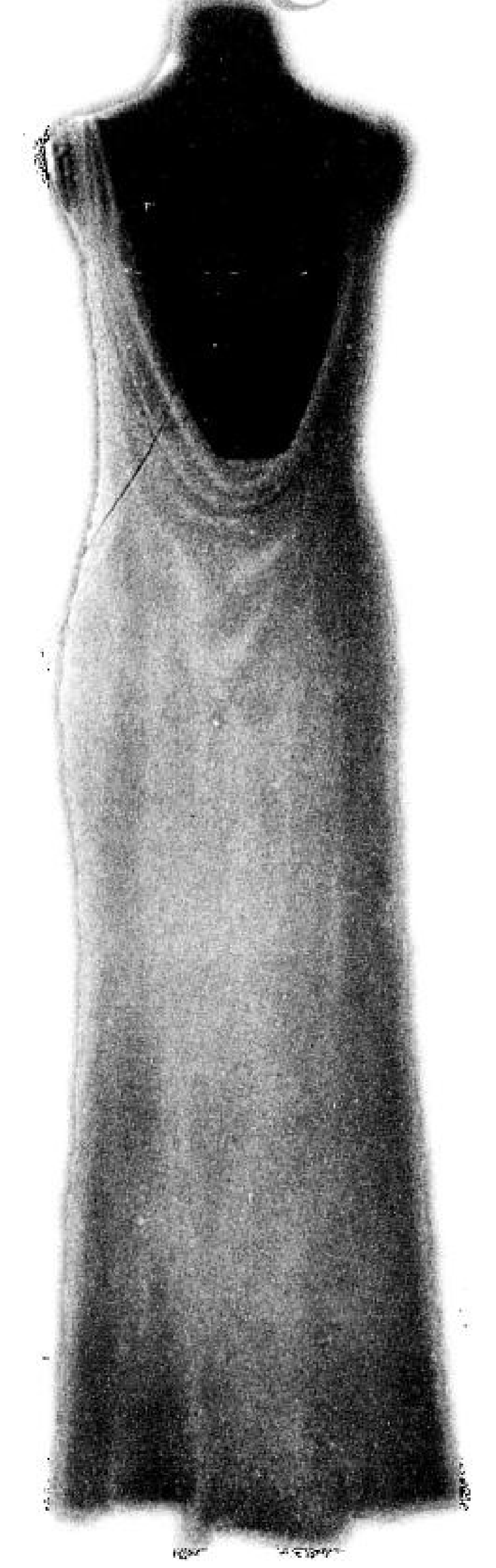
Queenly for a night

(From page D4)

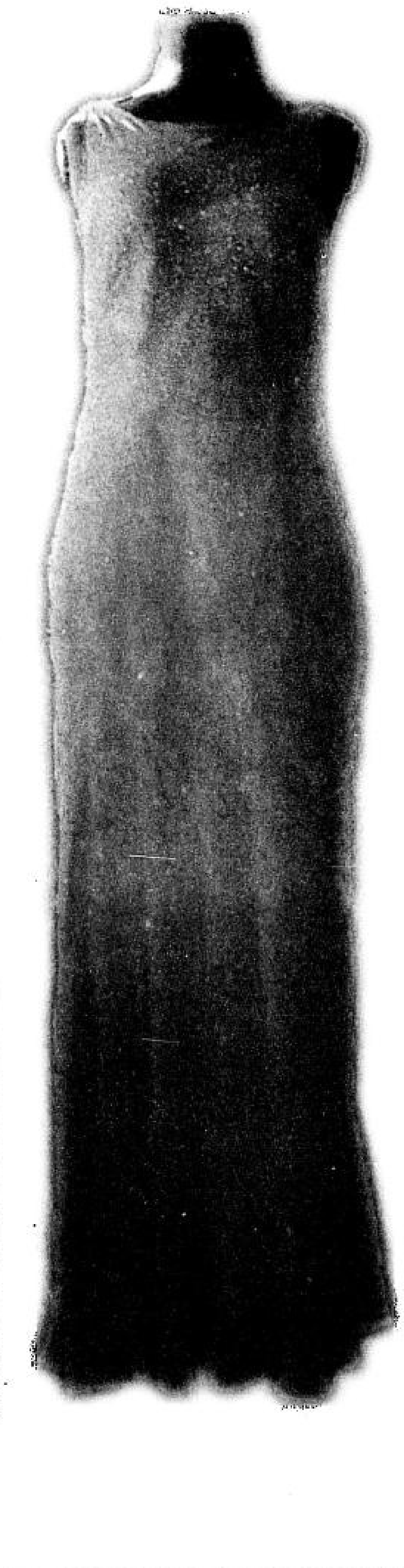
wrong dress and you're doomed for life. You'll never be able to reminisce fondly about your prom night nor will you ever look at the souvenir photo without cowering in embarrassment. If you have decided to buy the dress of your dreams (instead of having it made by Manila's top designers or your *suking kosturera*) here are 2bU!'s suggestions for your prom gown, courtesy of Rustan's.

And don't forget, slouching is a mortal sin on prom night.

Jules Alcantara



FANTASTIC BACK. If you want to flaunt your skin, then this red beaded gown with low scooping back should be an excellent pick. (P18,500)



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Yan ang galing... without overspending!

PILTEL

CREAM bra with flowery strap, P390

WHITE lacy strapless bra, P780

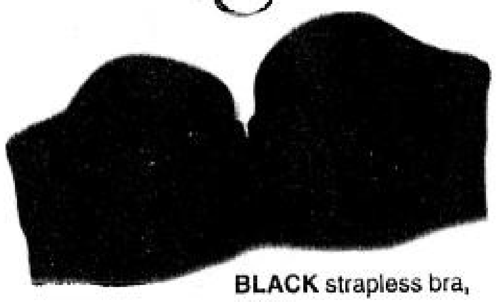
PEACH bra with detachable straps, P680

LIGHT blue support bra, P420

Choose the right underwear

AS if you don't have enough on your mind—snagging a date, shopping for the perfect dress, your spa treatment, trip to the salon—there's also the question of choosing the right kind of underwear.

You're probably thinking—who's going to care what I wear under my fabulous beaded gown? You should. Your choice of undies can either make or break your prom night.


BLACK strapless bra, P720

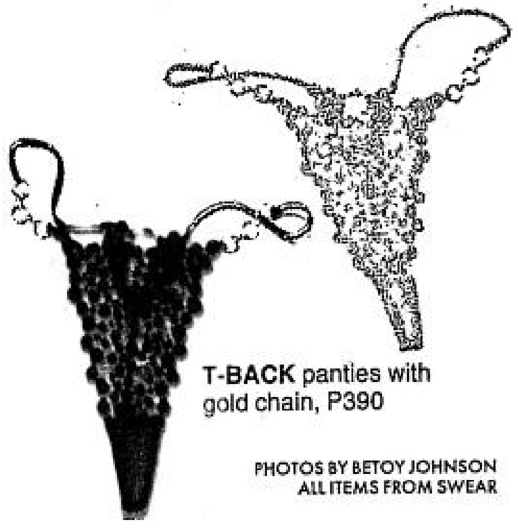
SEAMLESS bra, P680

Enhance your figure the natural way

Here are a few reminders:

- Showing off your bra straps is a no-no. The disheveled, lingerie look may have worked on a handful of catwalk beauties but it's not exactly a look for prom night. If your gown is strapless or its straps are thin, wear a strapless bra. If you are well endowed and can't find any in your size, make sure your bra straps are pinned securely to your dress's straps.
- Panty lines are not sexy. If you will be wearing a tight-fitting gown, make sure your panty lines won't show. Wear thongs or seamless panties for minimal lines.
- Leave the stuffing to the turkey. Balled up pieces of tissue and padding jammed into your bra look totally unnatural and could turn your prom into a nightmare. You wouldn't want to spend the night worrying about having your date squish up your secret when you slow dance, would you? Pick a dress that fits you perfectly so you wouldn't feel the need to add anything. Have a stress-free night. Go au naturel.
- If you're feeling a tad bit bloated, wearing full panties might help you tuck your stomach in.
- Try to match the shade of your dress with your underwear. Black undies showing through white fabric or vice versa is unattractive.
- Give them a little boost. There's nothing wrong with wearing a wired bra to enhance your figure. Just make sure they're the right size. *PASP*

BLACK full panties, P230


T-BACK panties with gold chain, P390

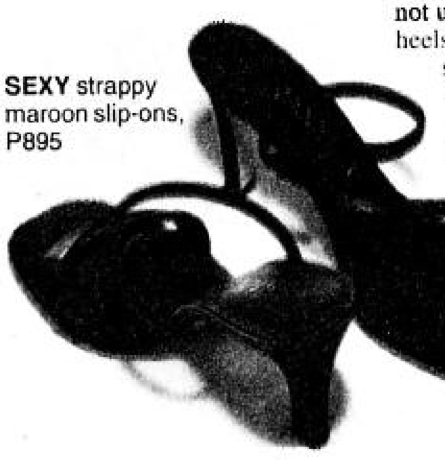
PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON
ALL ITEMS FROM SWEAR

THESE black heels will bring out the best in your legs. P1,100

SILVER high heels with ankle straps, P950

Stylish comfort

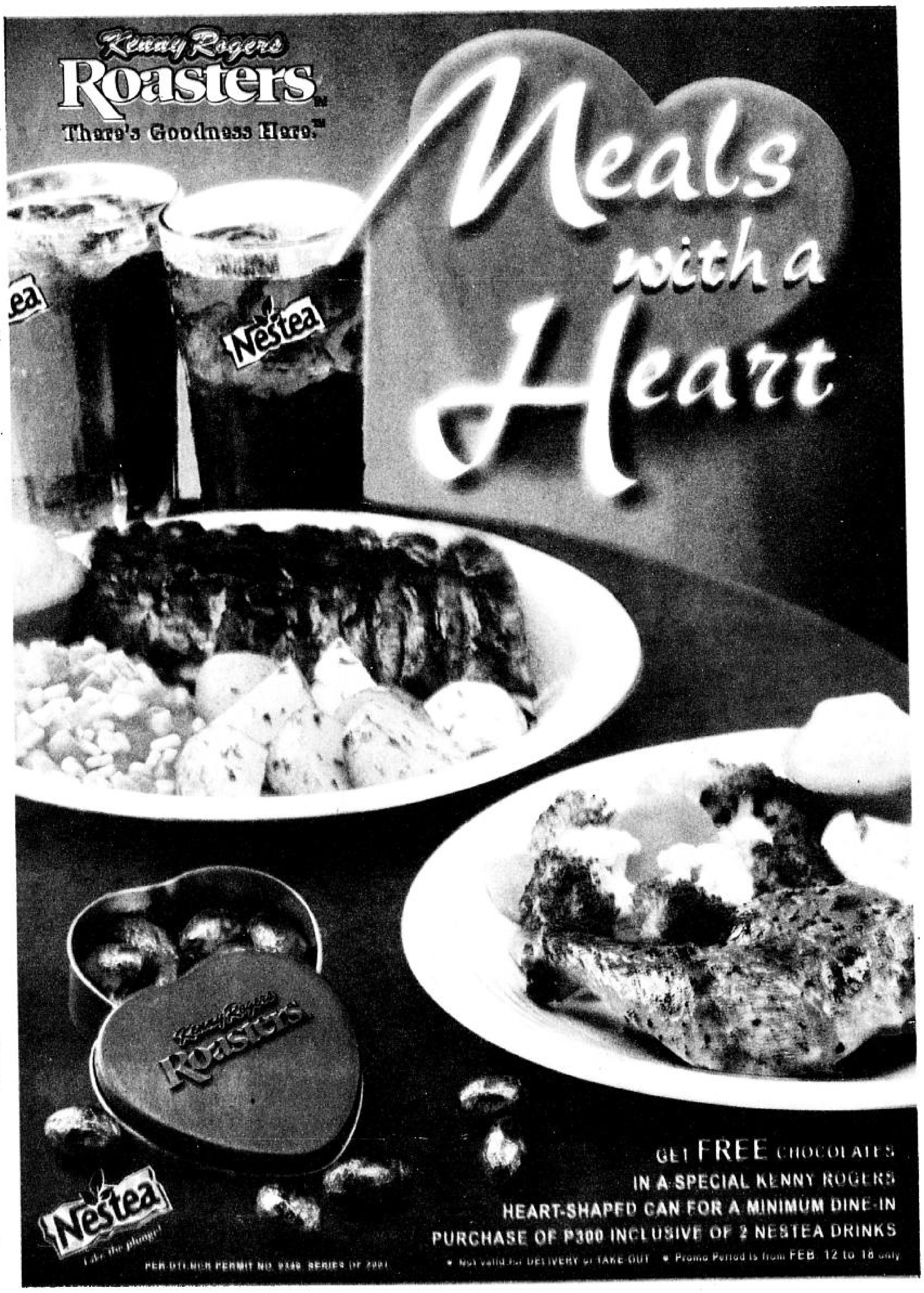
YOU'VE got the dress, but you've got to make your little feet pretty, too. When picking out your shoes, there are two key words to remember—style and comfort. Number one, the shoes have to match your dress. Number two, they should have been made for walking and dancing. You wouldn't want to be walking around that ballroom with blisters on your feet, would you? If you're a sneakers person who is not used to clumping around in heels, practice walking with your stilettos on at home. Try to break your shoes in before prom night. Walk around the house. Wear them to bed, even. One very special reminder—please, do not wear pantyhose with open toe sandals. *PASP*


SEXY strappy maroon slip-ons, P895

PHOTOS: BETOY JOHNSON
ALL SHOES FROM JANYLIN

BROWN beaded sling-back with toe strap, P1,595

GOLD sling-back with low heels, P950



GET FREE CHOCOLATES
IN A SPECIAL KENNY ROGERS
HEART-SHAPED CAN FOR A MINIMUM DINE-IN
PURCHASE OF P300 INCLUSIVE OF 2 NESTEA DRINKS
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 9349, SERIES OF 2001
• Not valid for DELIVERY or TAKE-OUT • Promo Period is from FEB. 12 to 18 only

Smashing seasonal style at Estilo

By Tim Yap

AL Estilo de...is that chi-chi new store by some of the city's top style mavens that has opened its doors on the second floor of the Rockwell Lifestyle Center in Makati.

Al Estilo de means "in the style of" and that in a nutshell is what it's all about. The phrase is meant to be finished by you as you personalize your experience at this shop-cum-café-cum-atelier-cum-lounge.

Owned by fashion designer Michele Sison, interior designer Anton Barretto, and style files Leah Puyat, Dr. Ernie Santos, and Juan Pablo and Laura Verallo-Bertotto, this destination store is a first of its kind. With seasonal themes, the total lifestyle house focuses on various *objets d' art*—from scented candles to beaded bags and disco totes to captivating VMV cosmetics and antique furniture—Asian Zen at its absolute finest.

Not only are you surrounded by things of beauty, you are also seduced by its tables, with food and wine arbitrated by the city's top young chefs. It's open till midnight on weekdays and beyond on Fridays and Saturdays—perfect for those late-night, chilled-out getaways with chic friends.

Find there a hundred-year-old table from Beijing, a coral-beaded tangerine bag, lavender-scented aromatherapy candles, body scrubs and that hard-to-find lipstick, not to mention that rounded wooden slip-on—all in one roof!

Add your name to the customer registry and find out what exhibits, events and parties are coming up. Or have the Estilo team create the perfect event for you in your style.

Whether it's Valentine's, prom season, you're just feeling thoughtful, or you want to pamper yourself by giving in and getting that Michele Sison bag you've always wanted—it's Estilo for absolute style.

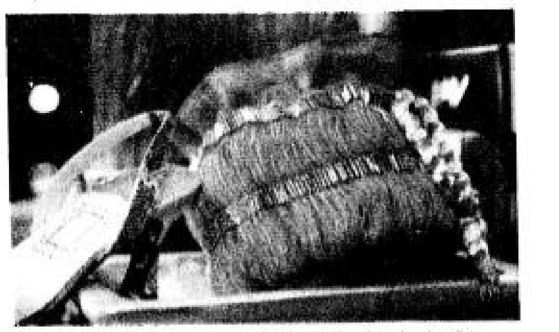
The store's identity changes quarterly. This season, the trend-setting retail store is currently "Al Estilo del Oriente" or in the style of the Orient. Find on this page fab Orientalia finds.

Then, March brings in "Al Estilo del Carnavale." The entire store will be bursting at the seams with goodies from the tropics and famous fiestas. Shop, eat, drink, create, live "en tu Estilo"—your style.

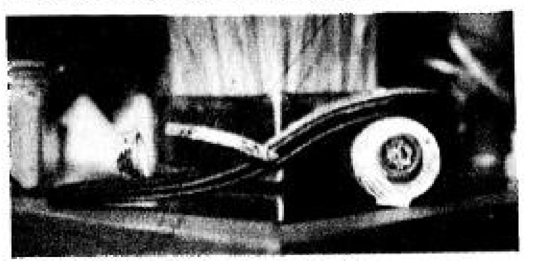
ESTILO de Leah Puyat, Laura Verallo de Bertotto, Dr. Ernie Santos, Michele Sison, Anton Barretto and Juan Pablo Bertotto

OUR BET. Joey Mead shines

SEASON of Sison. Sisters Michele, Shirley and Melissa Sison during the store opening

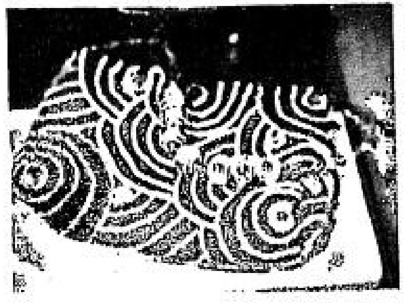


ORANGE beaded pouch bag by Michele Sison



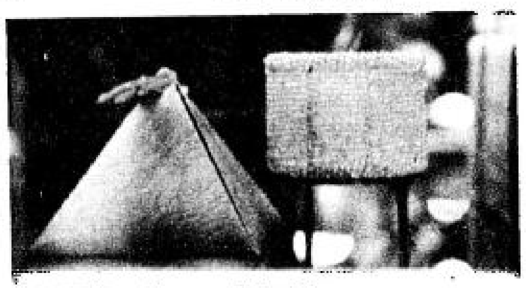
ROUNDED heel strappy sandals

A FEAST of Chinese tapa pandesal, cold cut platter and chocolate dip



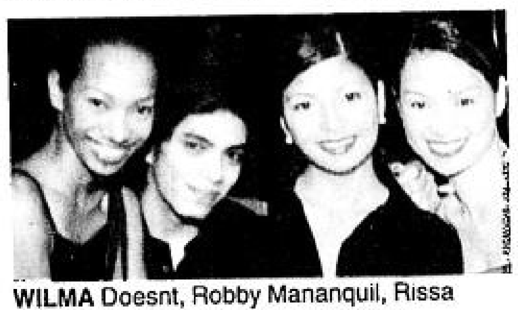
SISON's swirly Swarvoski beaded bag

PHOTOS BY EDDIE BOY ESCUDERO

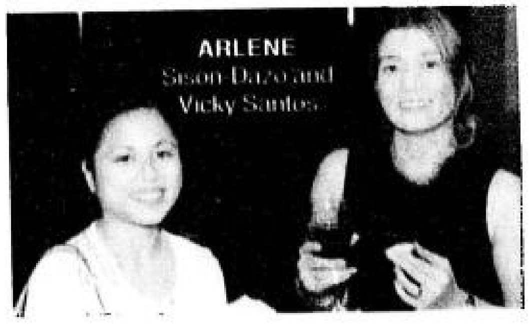


BEADED votive candle holder

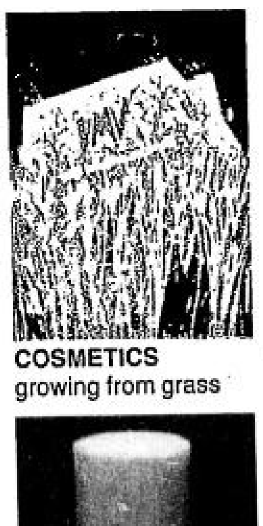
BATON bag in Indian sari fabric by Michele Sison



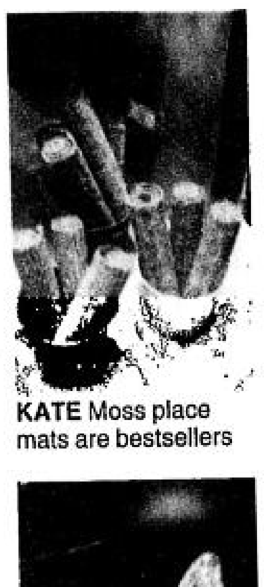
WILMA Doesnt, Robby Mananquil, Rissa Mananquil-Samson and Baba Parma



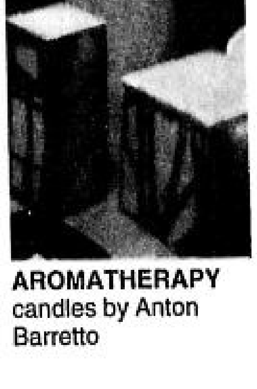
ARLENE Sison-Dazo and Vicky Santos



COSMETICS growing from grass

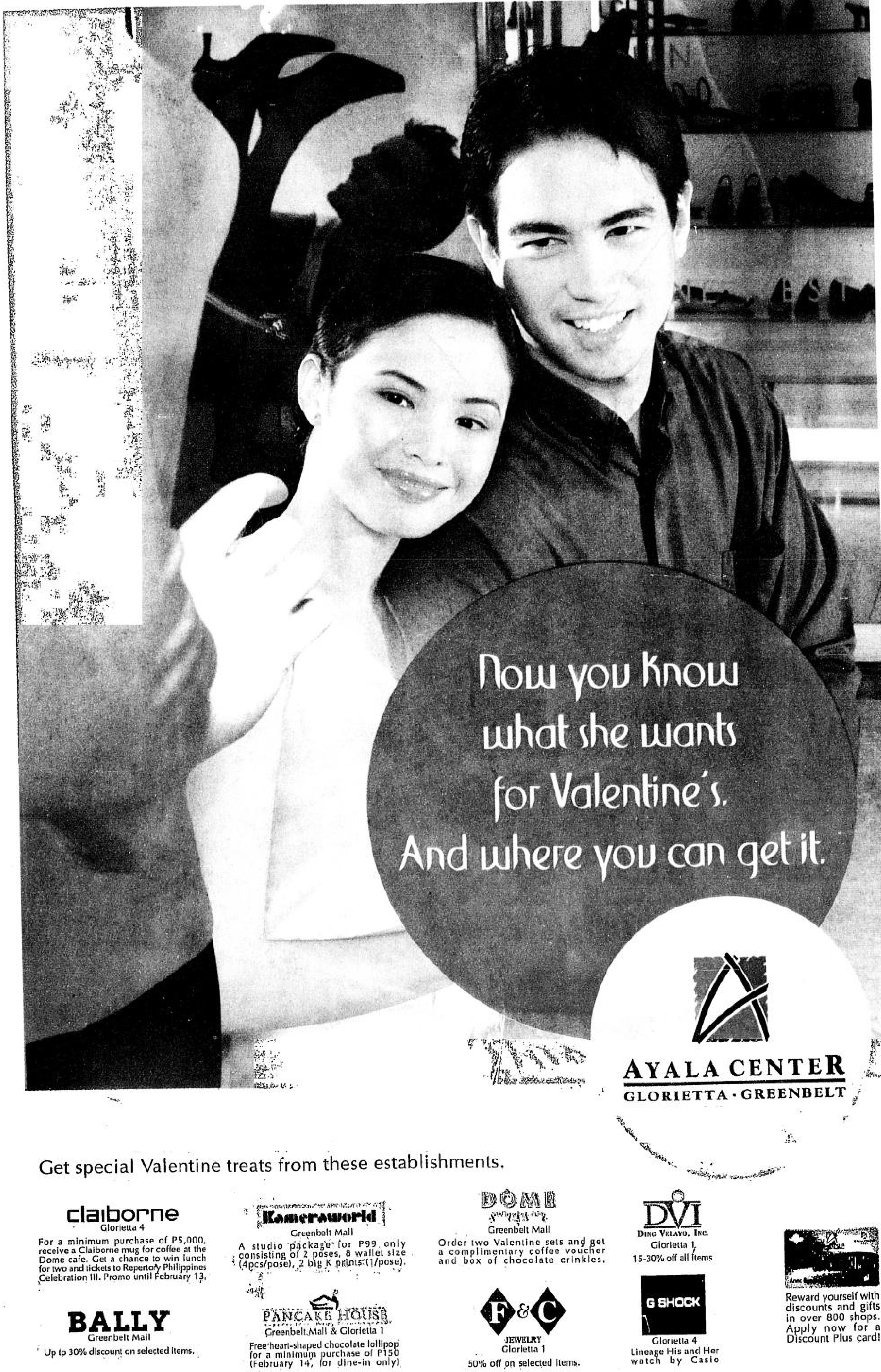


KATE Moss place mats are bestsellers



AROMATHERAPY candles by Anton Barretto

EXQUISITE butterfly talisman in Estilo's Orientalia season



Get special Valentine treats from these establishments.

claiborne
Glorietta 4
For a minimum purchase of P5,000, receive a Claiborne mug for coffee at the Dome cafe. Get a chance to win lunch for two and tickets to Repertory Philippines Celebration III. Promo until February 13.

Kameraworld
Greenbelt Mall
A studio package for P99 only consisting of 2 poses, 8 wallet size (4pcs/pose), 2 big K prints (1/pose).

DOME
Greenbelt Mall
Order two Valentine sets and get a complimentary coffee voucher and box of chocolate crinkles.

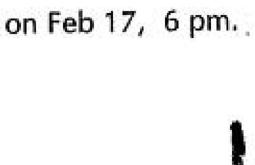
DVI
Ding Velayo, Inc.
Glorietta 1
15-30% off all items

BALLY
Greenbelt Mall
Up to 30% discount on selected items.

PANCAKE HOUSE
Greenbelt Mall & Glorietta 1
Free heart-shaped chocolate lollipop for a minimum purchase of P150 (February 14, for dine-in only)

F&C
JEWELRY
Glorietta 1
50% off on selected items.

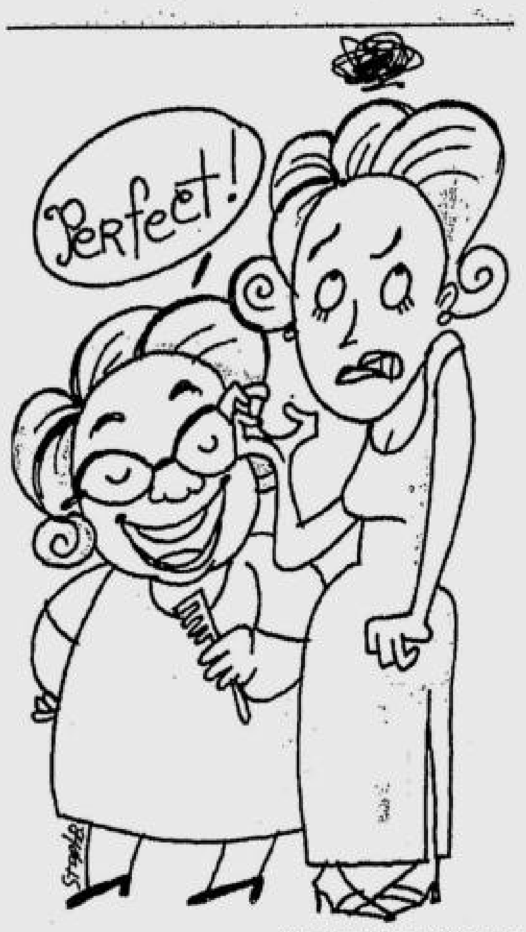
G SHOCK
Glorietta 4
Lineage His and Her watch by Casio



Reward yourself with discounts and gifts in over 800 shops. Apply now for a Discount Plus card!

Come to the free Valentine concerts at Glorietta 4 Park, featuring Lani Misalucha on Feb. 16, 6 pm, and Zsa Zsa Padilla on Feb 17, 6 pm.

LIFESTYLE



ILLUSTRATIONS: STEPH BRAVO

Prom-night disasters

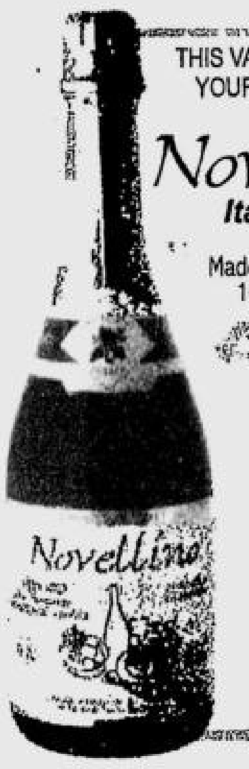
The most important night of your youth may yet become your worst nightmare

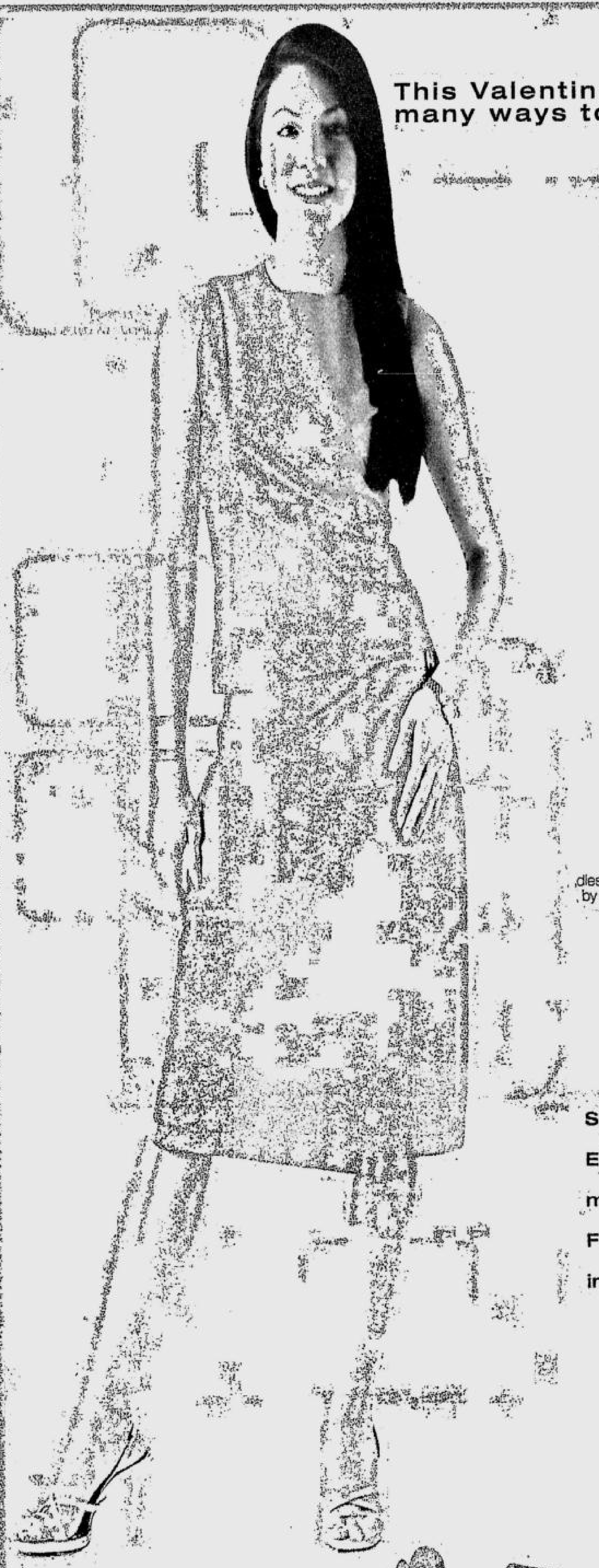
BY PAM PASTOR

ALMOST every high school student waits for this night with bated breath. Kids spend months and months preparing for it, eager to have a night they can forever treasure. But fate can be unfairly playful. Here are stories from people who cringe when they hear the word "prom"—the survivors of prom-night disasters.

You want a real nightmare? My high school held its prom in the afternoon because that was

PROM/ p.E2


THIS VALENTINE, SURPRISE YOUR LOVED ONE WITH
Novellino
Italian Wines
Made from pure and natural 100% Vinifera grapes from Italy.
Choose from five delightfully sweet varieties in all leading supermarkets.
Exclusively distributed by MarketReach Distributors, Inc., 15 Scout Madriñan St., South Triangle, Q.C. Philippines 1103 Tel. 371-4393 and 371-4379


This Valentine's, discover the many ways to capture her heart.

lovelights
earrings in 18k white gold encrusted with pavé diamonds

higher ground
silk top in tangerine by **due**

celebrate the places in her heart

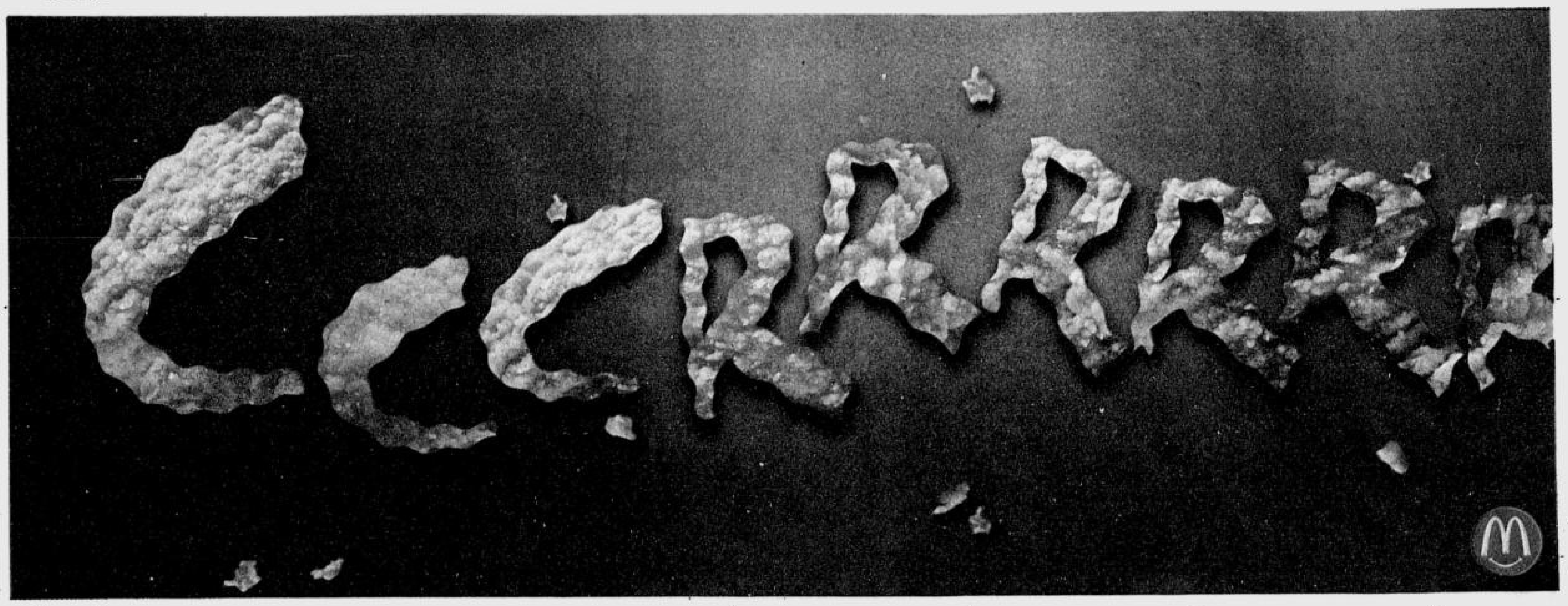
shining moment
dles' watch in 18k white gold with diamonds by **vacheron constantin** at the silver vault

curve appeal
silk wrap skirt in magenta by **due**

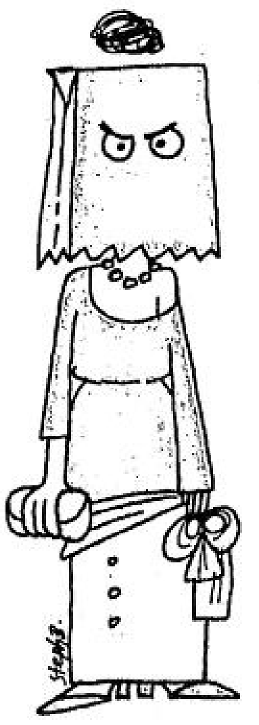
She's such a treasure.
Every part, every precious curve
must be pampered and loved.
Find those secret places
in the heart only at Rustan's.

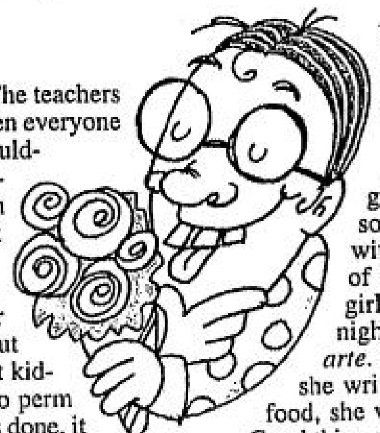
head over heels
strappy stiletto heels in silver satin by **rodo**

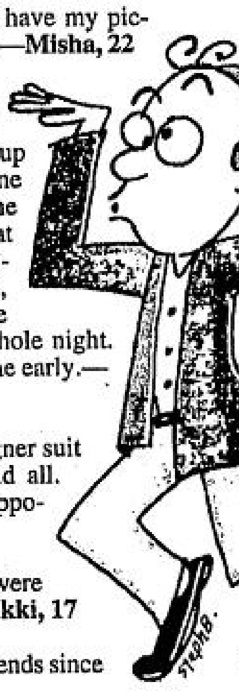
Rustan's
MAKATI • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA • CUBAO • HARRISON PLAZA • ALABANG • CEBU

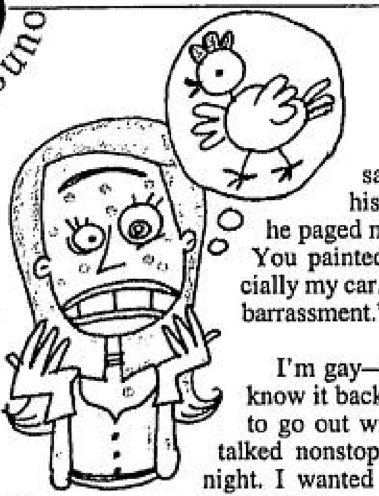


Prom-night disasters









blah...
blah...
blah...

(From page E1)

the height of kidnappings. The teachers put makeup on the girls. Then everyone was asked to line up. You couldn't choose your own partner. It was all based on height. Plus, each guy got two girls. Ugh.—**Tim**

My mom took me to her favorite salon. The guy put gunk on my face—I am not kidding. Then, he proceeded to perm my hair. By the time he was done, it was too late. I couldn't do anything about it. I went to my prom looking like a *matrona*. Yuck *talaga*.—**Trix, 21**

I was on a tight budget since I was finally able to convince my parents to let me study in the United States. I wanted to save up for my stay there. I decided to make do with a gown made by my grandma's *modista*. I thought it would be okay since I picked out a really nice dress from a catalog. All she had to do is copy it, I thought. It wasn't that simple. The dress didn't look good—it fit all wrong. I refused to have my picture taken that night.—**Misha, 22**

I didn't have a girlfriend at that time so my mom fixed me up with the daughter of one of her friends. I met the girl for the first time that night. She was really *maarte*. She refused to dance, she wrinkled her nose at the food, she was just silent the whole night. Good thing she wanted to go home early.—**David, 19**

I expected a hot guy in a designer suit and a European car, flowers and all. What I got was the complete opposite.—**Carmen, 18**

My date had a flat tire. We were two hours late for my prom.—**Nikki, 17**

I went with my two best girlfriends since we didn't feel like going out with dates we didn't like. Everything was going okay, until they started fighting at the table over some petty thing. I can't even remember what it was. They refused to speak with each other and I spent the rest of the night trying to patch things up between them.—**Isa, 18**

My date stood me up.—**Mike, 19**

A few days before prom, I started noticing tiny itchy spots all over my body. I got the chicken pox from my 5-year-old brother. I spent prom night scratching and watching cartoons at home.—**Thea, 20**

I had my period on prom night. Everything went okay. He brought me home and when I got out of the car, I saw that I left a stain on his car seat. The next day he paged me, "I had a great time. You painted the town red—especially my car." Talk about sheer embarrassment." —**Paulina, 20**

I'm gay—but my parents didn't know it back then. They forced me to go out with this flirty girl who talked nonstop and clung to me all night. I wanted to wring her neck.—**Rommel Silva, 21**

I was set up by my friend. The guy seemed okay. Until he started dancing. Ugh. My prom date was the sixth member of Backstreet Boys.—**Cynthia, 19**

ANG
TITIGAS
NG
ULO!

Kung gigil na gigil ka na sa ayaw maalis at pabalik-balik na **pimples, whiteheads** at **blackheads**, gumamit na ng **BETADINE Skin Cleanser**.

Kills Acne-Causing Bacteria in just 30 seconds!

Betadine Skin Cleanser is clinically proven to effectively fight persistent and stubborn acne such as pimples, whiteheads and blackheads.

Its strong antiseptic action eliminates acne-causing bacteria and microorganisms, as well as reduces excessive oils in the skin while *maintaining its natural pH level.*

Betadine Skin Cleanser is non-irritating, non-drying and non-staining.

So put an end to stubborn acne once and for all!

Start your **Betadine Skin Cleanser** habit now!

POVIDONE-IODINE
BETADINE
Skin Cleanser
Antiseptic

The Clinically Proven
Acne Solution

Pascual Laboratories, Inc.
CONSUMER HEALTHCARE

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"®:BETADINE is a registered trademark."

How To Use:

1. Pour a small amount on palm and dilute with a palmful of water.
2. Work into lather on face (or area affected with acne) for 15 seconds just like liquid soap.
3. Rinse thoroughly with water.
4. Use two to three times a day until acne has completely healed (preferably in the morning and before going to bed).

For Inquiries, please call
Pascual Clear Skin Hotline
926-9451 or 920-1911 to 15 loc. 217

Jam with MTV at The Fort

MTV Philippines is finally airing 24 hours a day, seven days a week nonstop on UHF Channel 41 for free. And to celebrate this occasion, MTV is throwing a free open-air concert and everyone is invited.

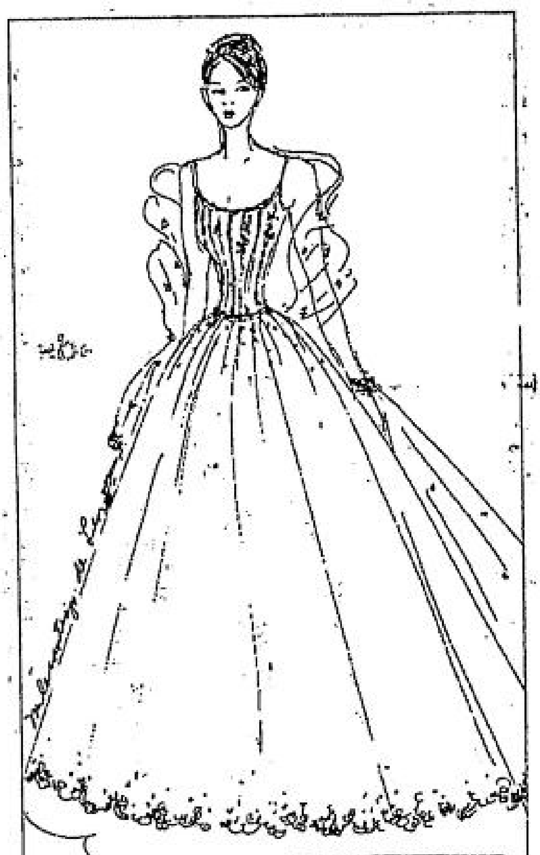
Baptize your senses with natural high as you jam with MTV at The Fort on Feb. 17, 8 p.m., with special appearances by MTV VJs Belinda Panelo, KC Montero, Sarah Meler and Donita Rose.

Rock the night away with Atlanta-based band Collective Soul, known for their hit song "Shine." Their latest album "Blender" saw them collaborating with Elton John for the song "Perfect Day." Jam also with boy band Plus One, who has half-Filipino Jeremy Mhire as one of the members, as they perform their current single "Last Flight Out" from their debut album "The Promise." They will be performing alongside Philippines' homegrown talents like Side A, The Dawn, Eraserheads, Rivermaya, Parokya ni Edgar, Wolfgang, Razorback, Teeth, Sandwich, Slapshock, Brownbeat All Stars, Passage, Barbie's Cradle, Grace Nono, Cynthia Alexander and Kaya.

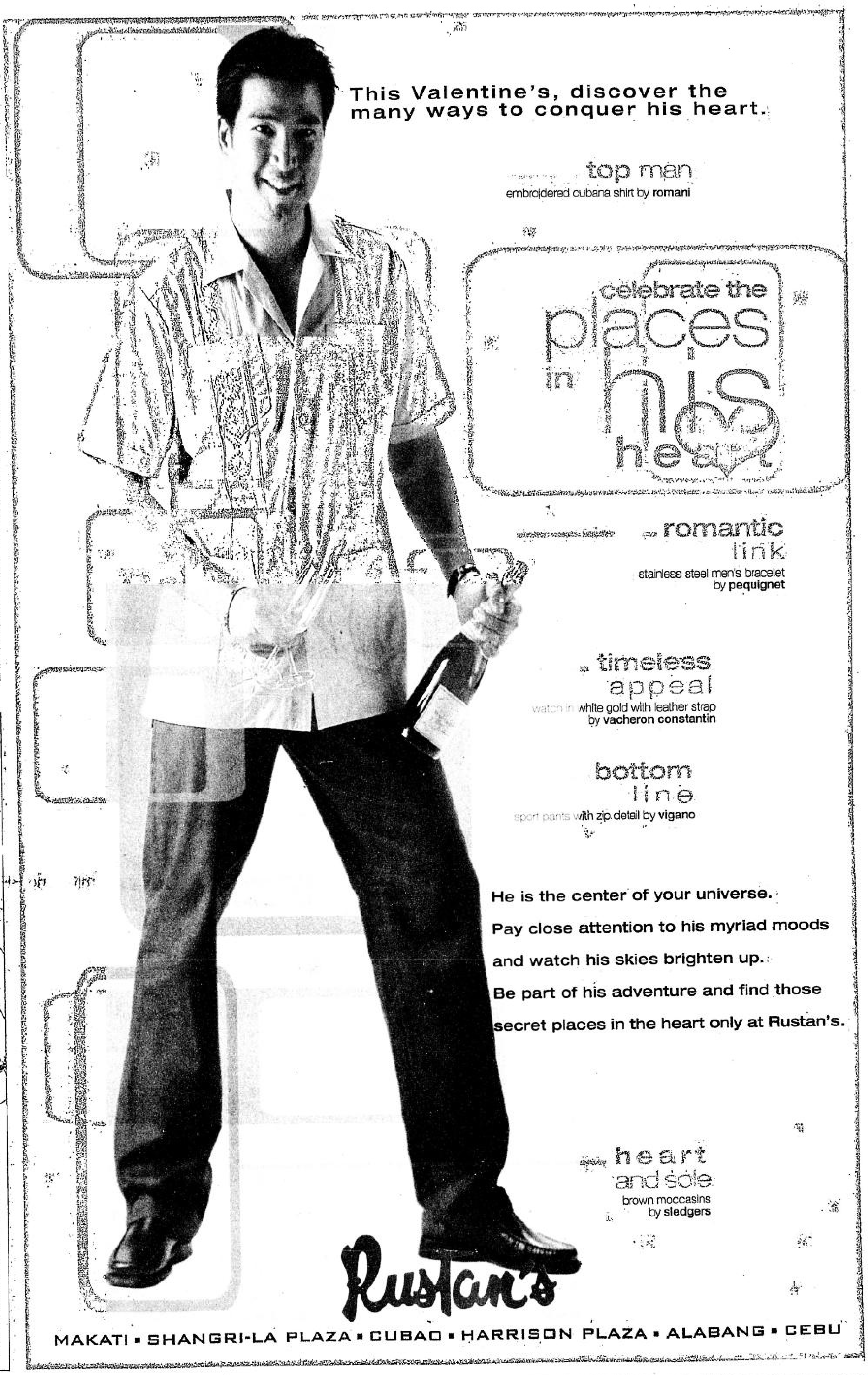
The Philippine Navy Band, Marine Drum Band and Bugle Choir will also be at hand playing the latest MTV hit songs on the MTV charts. Catch the MTV crew in action as they cover the concert live. Relive the experience as MTV Philippines airs "The Rebirth Concert Special" on March 17, 1-3 p.m. and 8-10 p.m. with repeats on Mach 25, 1-3 p.m. and 8-10 p.m.

Says Peter Bullard, senior VP and managing director of MTV Southeast Asia: "We are thrilled to give the Filipinos a chance to do some serious partying to celebrate this truly exciting event."

"MTV has always been about the youth and that is why we have created bigger and better events and programs to be more in touch with them and to give them what they really want," says Francis Lumen, president and chief executive officer of Nation Broadcasting Corp. and managing director for MTV Philippines.



LEONICE Diana Sayo, daughter of **Rene** and **Bini Arcinas Sayo**, will be celebrating her 18th birthday on Feb. 17 at the Century Park Hotel. Leonice is a freshman at the Ateneo de Manila University taking up management economics. She will be wearing a bouffant skirt on baby pink and silver Italian taffeta, embellished with intricate beading and Swarovski beads by **Mila Santiago-De Leon.**


This Valentine's, discover the many ways to conquer his heart.

top man
embroidered cubana shirt by romani

celebrate the places in his heart

romantic link
stainless steel men's bracelet by pequignet

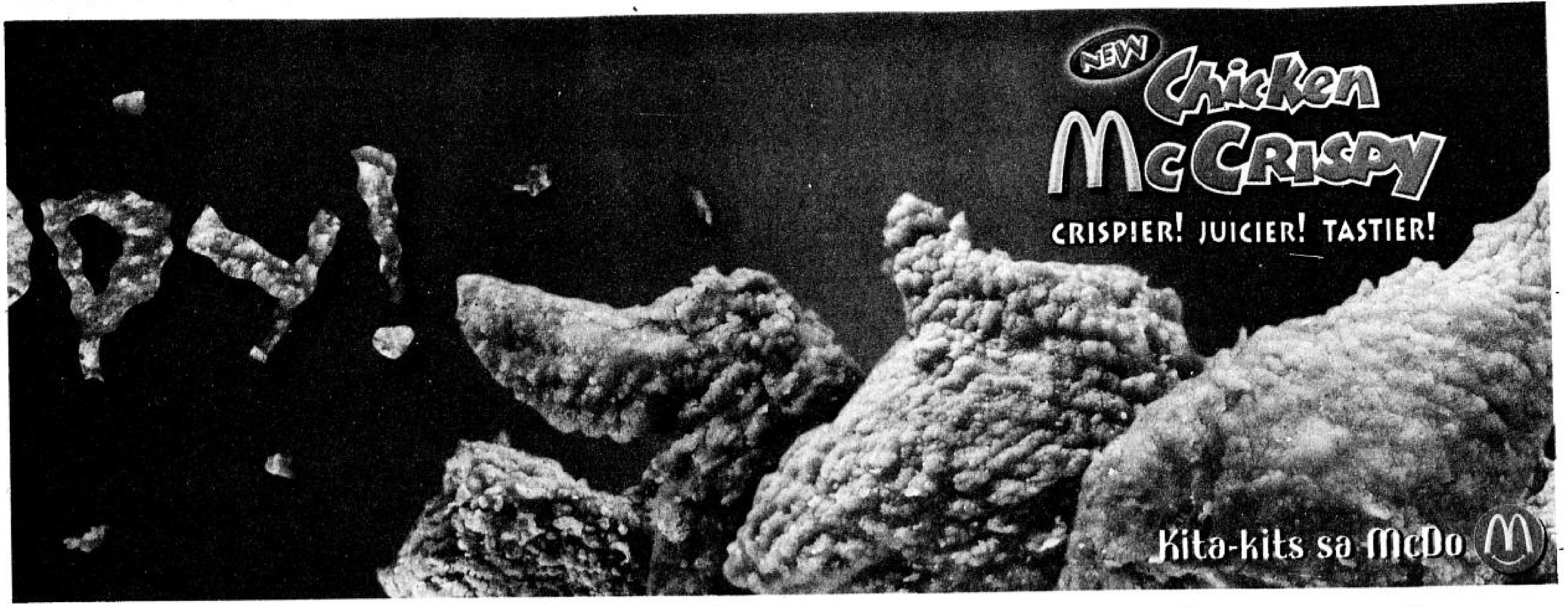
timeless appeal
watch in white gold with leather strap by vacheron constantin

bottom line
sport pants with zip detail by vigano

He is the center of your universe.
Pay close attention to his myriad moods
and watch his skies brighten up.
Be part of his adventure and find those
secret places in the heart only at Rustan's.

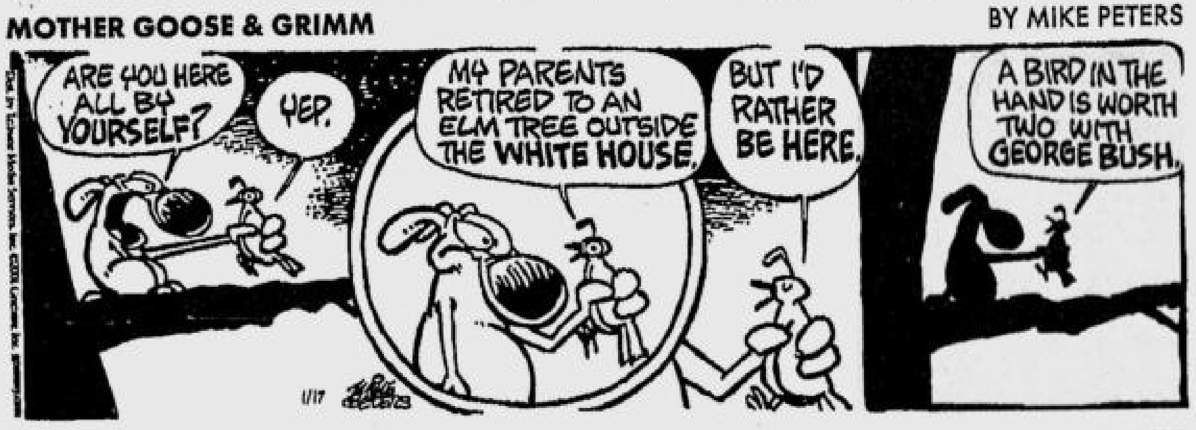
heart and sole
brown moccasins by sledgers

Rustan's
MAKATI • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA • CUBAO • HARRISON PLAZA • ALABANG • CEBU


NEW Chicken McCrispy
CRISPIER! JUICIER! TASTIER!
Kita-kits sa McDo

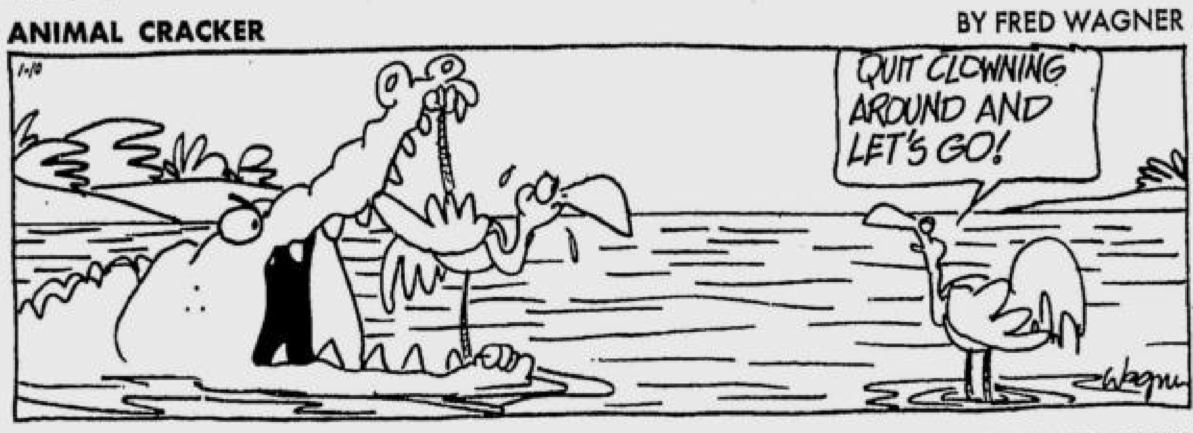
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


ARE YOU HERE ALL BY YOURSELF?
YEP.
MY PARENTS RETIRED TO AN ELM TREE OUTSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE.
BUT I'D RATHER BE HERE.
A BIRD IN THE HAND IS WORTH TWO WITH GEORGE BUSH.
1/17

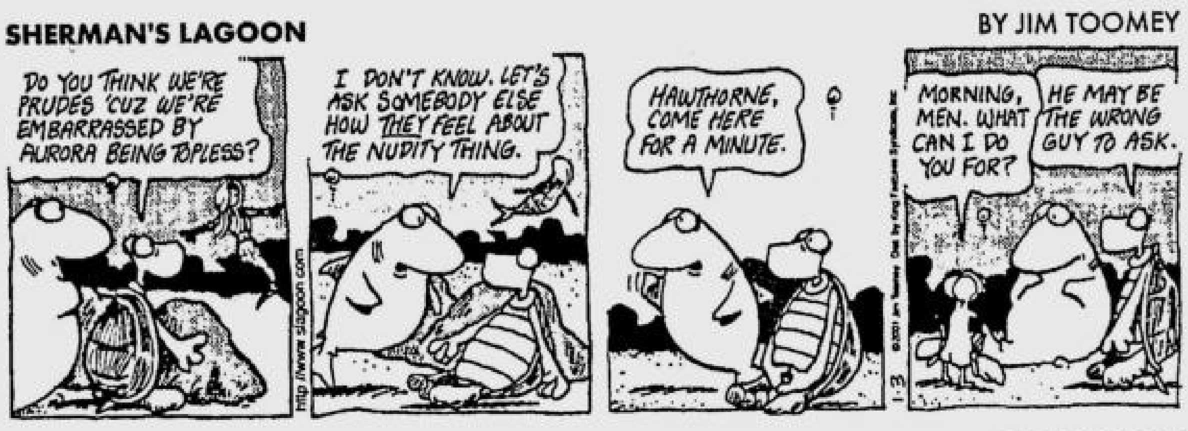
ANIMAL CRACKER

BY FRED WAGNER


1-10
QUIT CLOWNING AROUND AND LET'S GO!
Wagner

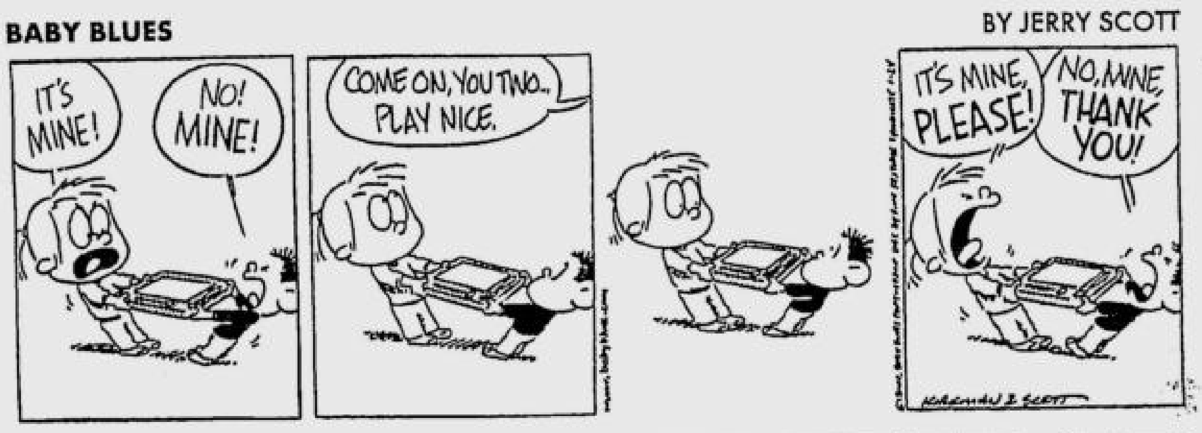
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


DO YOU THINK WE'RE PRUDES 'CUZ WE'RE EMBARRASSED BY AURORA BEING TOPLESS?
I DON'T KNOW. LET'S ASK SOMEBODY ELSE HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT THE NUDITY THING.
http://www.slagoon.com
HAWTHORNE, COME HERE FOR A MINUTE.
1-13
MORNING, MEN. WHAT CAN I DO YOU FOR?
HE MAY BE THE WRONG GUY TO ASK.

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


IT'S MINE!
NO! MINE!
COME ON, YOU TWO.. PLAY NICE.
IT'S MINE, PLEASE!
NO, MINE, THANK YOU!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jack Benny, Hugh Downs, Gregory Hines, Florence Henderson, Meg Tilly, Drew Bledsoe

Happy Birthday: This will be an exciting year for you. Your interests will grow, and your participation in different organizations and events will fill your datebook. Your sincere manner will help you establish a position among your peers and colleagues, earning you popularity and a good reputation. Your numbers: 9, 13, 16, 20, 33, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may feel limited due to your responsibilities. Don't spend more than you can afford on entertainment or luxury items. You must stick to your budget.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You need to spend time with your partner. Trips, social events or just an evening alone would be appropriate. Look into joining organizations that will bring you in contact with prestigious people.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can accomplish a lot if you present your ideas to superiors. You need to feel confident about yourself and your work. Don't let anyone criticize you unwarrantably. Stick up for your beliefs and your ideals.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will finally be able to get your hobbies off the ground. Get children involved if they show an interest. You need to do more together as a family. You can make favorable changes to your residence. Consider a games room.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will have problems with the women in your household. Try to be patient and don't be insensitive to their moods. Avoid creating melodramas.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Relatives will give you some sound advice if you are willing to share your troubles with them. Things will not be as bad as you first thought.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be taken advantage of if you don't pay close attention to your investments. Don't let anyone talk you into lending money or your belongings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will be emotional, which could lead to problems in dealing with your mate. Don't let jealousy come between you and the one you love.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will have to stay out of other people's private affairs even if they do try to involve you. Don't reveal your secrets, and you won't have any reason to worry. You will have problems with authority figures if you bend the rules.

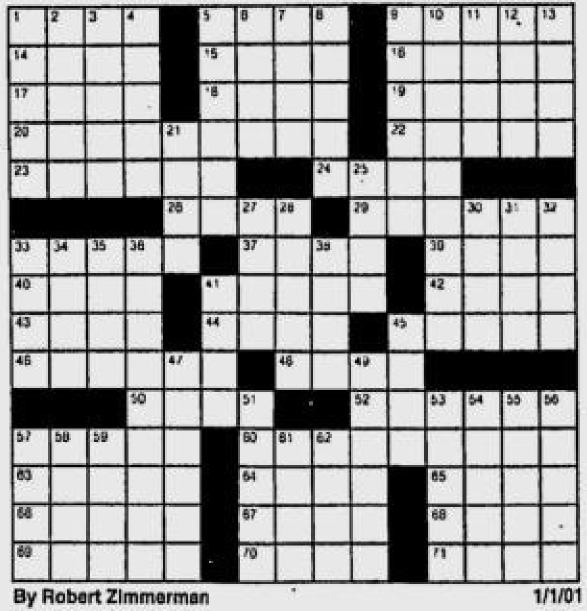
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You need to get out and mingle. You must look to those you trust for sound advice about your personal situation. You will have trouble justifying spending money.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let someone lead you down the garden path. You must dig deep if you want to find out the whole truth. You can accomplish the most if you concentrate on your career.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You need to find time to do some reading. The knowledge you pick up will be important in the future. Look into new philosophies that appear to be more suited to your needs.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Robert Zimmerman
San Diego, California

1/1/01

ACROSS
1 Movie piglet
5 Lads
9 Display of vibrato
14 Troubles
15 Baldwin brother
16 Soundtrack
17 Decisive victory
18 European defense assn.
19 Speed at sea
20 Have conniptions
22 Small landmass
23 Millinery anchor?
24 Out of __ (discordant)
26 Childlike person
29 Redgrave title role
33 Dixie Chicks instrument
37 Chestnut-and-gray horse
39 Banister
40 Moises or Felipe
41 Wild way to run
42 __ Stanley Gardner
43 Wander
44 Tropical tree
45 One Astaire
46 Entices
48 Scorch
50 Visualizes
52 Garlic shrimp
57 Marine ray
60 Get sick and tired?
63 Machu Picchu builders
64 Hautboy
65 Caspian feeder
66 Trap
67 Simple plant
68 Lug
69 Bleachers, e.g.
70 Bolted
71 Son of Seth

DOWN
1 Lamaze subject
2 "Ciao" on Kauai
3 Utter without forethought
4 Prohibit, legally
5 Split fruit
6 Norwegian saint
7 Abominable snowman
8 Glaswegians
9 Not swinging the bat
10 Retreat in panic
11 Golden calf, e.g.
12 Dieter's word
13 Misplaced
21 Sot
25 Tug violently
27 "__ la Douce"
28 Sports infractions
30 Common vetch
31 Rising ground
32 To shelter
33 Simpson kid
34 Soothing substance
35 Linguist Chomsky
36 Dead battery solution
38 High point
41 Church section
45 St. Louis landmark
47 Mocks in fun
49 Climb up
51 Treat with derision
53 Perceptive
54 Fool
55 "Phaedo" author
56 Runs in neutral
57 Wide shot
58 Comic Meara
59 U. sports org.
61 First murder victim
62 Ripped

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

A	C	C	O	M	M	O	D	A	T	E		D	A	B
S	A	U	D	I	A	R	A	B	I	A		E	L	L
P	R	E	E	X	I	S	T	E	N	T		T	I	E
					L	O	E	S	S		S	E	C	S
C	A	N	T	E	E	N	S			T	I	R	E	S
A	B	O	A	R	D			C	H	A	L	I	C	E
L	U	S	T	S		B	L	U	E	B	L	O	O	D
L	S	T			L	O	I	R	E			R	O	N
M	I	R	A	B	E	L	L	E		G	R	A	P	E
E	V	A	S	I	V	E			R	O	U	T	E	S
M	E	D	A	L			D	R	E	D	G	E	R	S
A	N	A	T		S	C	R	A	M					
D	E	M		F	E	L	I	C	I	T	A	T	E	D
A	S	U		L	E	A	V	E	S	A	L	O	N	E
M	S	S		U	N	D	E	R	S	U	P	P	L	Y

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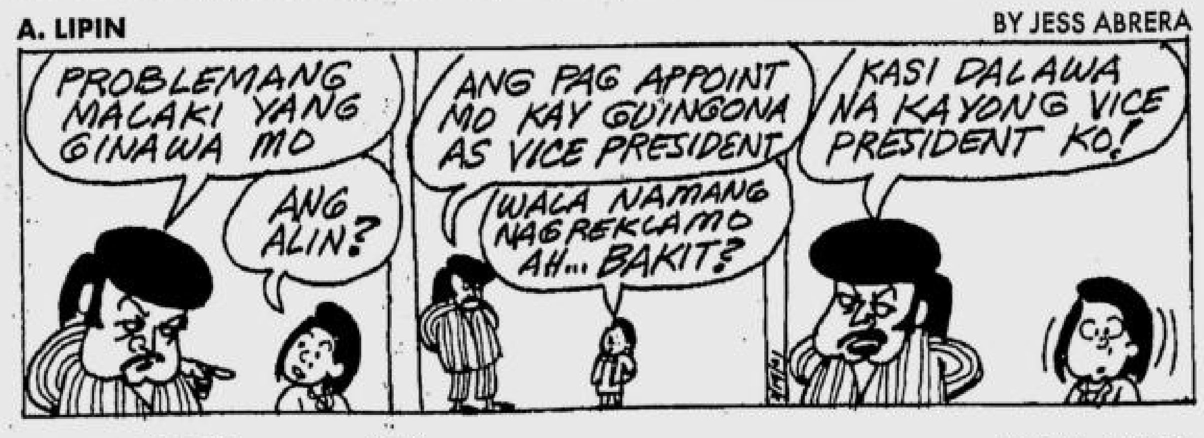
1/1/01

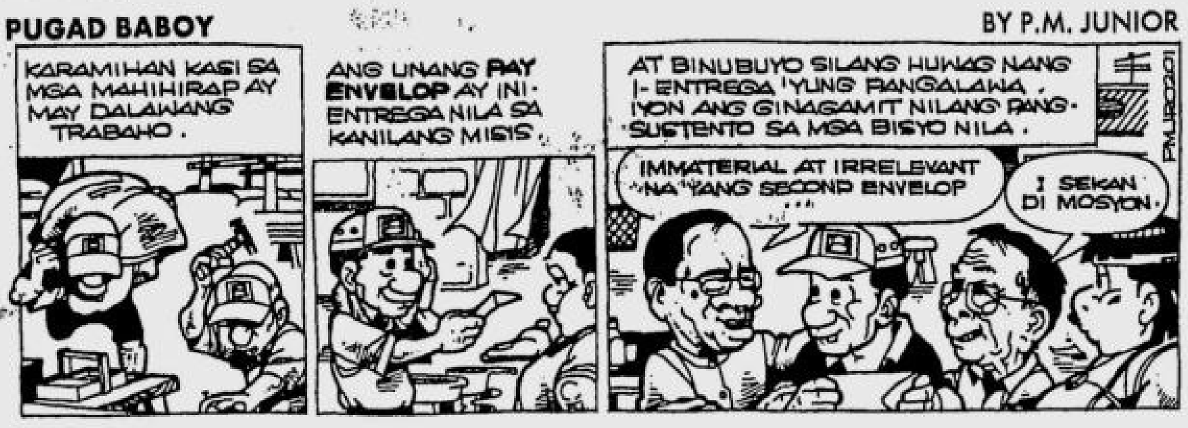
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


PROBLEMANG MALAKI YANG GINAWA MO
ANG ALIN?
ANG PAG APPOINT MO KAY GUINGONA AS VICE PRESIDENT
WALA NAMANG NAGREKLAMO AH... BAKIT?
KASI DALAWA NA KAYONG VICE PRESIDENT KO!

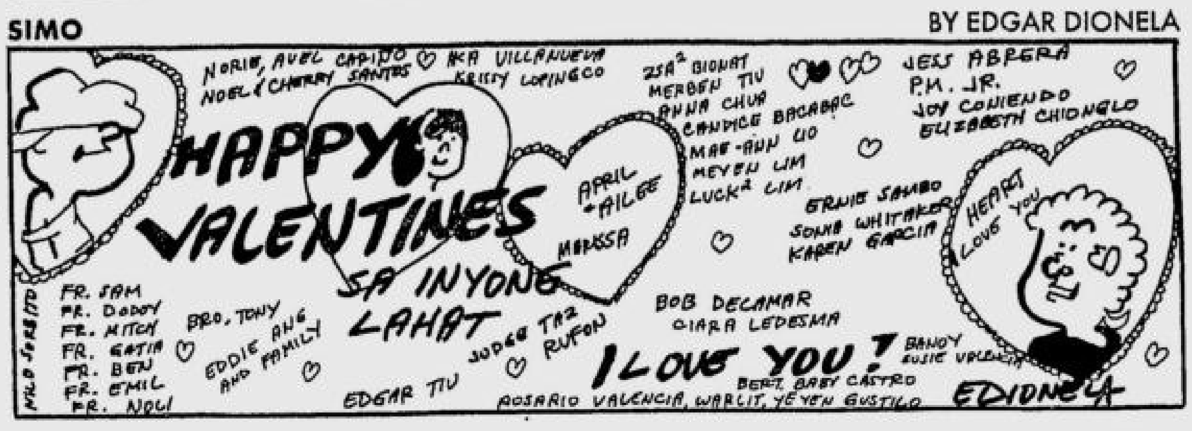
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


KARAMIHAN KASI SA MGA MAHIHIRAP AY MAY DALAWANG TRABAHO.
ANG UNANG PAY ENVELOP AY INI-ENTREGA NILA SA KANILANG MISIS.
AT BINUBUYO SILANG HUWAG NANG I-ENTREGA 'YUNG PANGALAWA. IYON ANG GINAGAMIT NILANG PANG-SUSTENTO SA MGA BISYO NILA.
PMJR02101
IMMATERIAL AT IRRELEVANT NA 'YANG SECOND ENVELOP...
I SEKAN DI MOSYON.

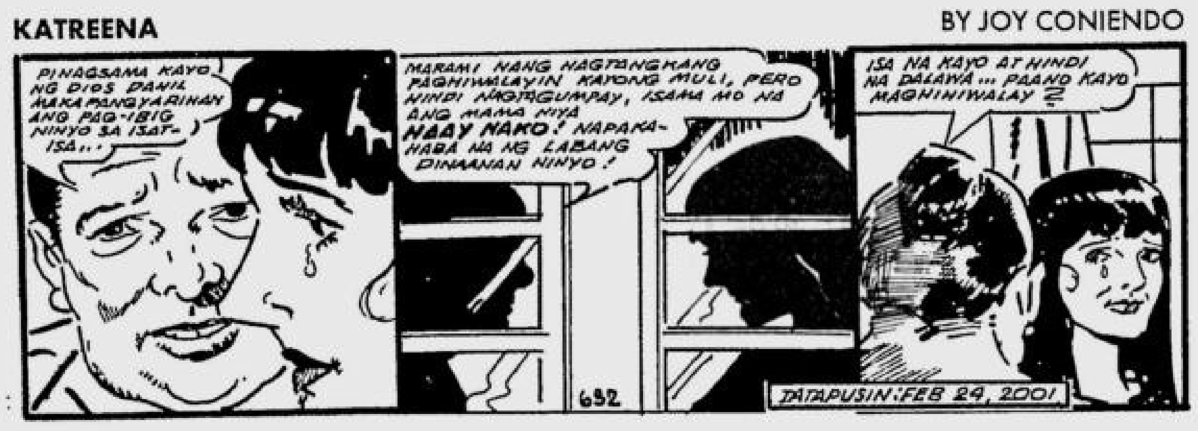
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


HAPPY VALENTINES SA INYONG LAHAT
I LOVE YOU!
NORIE, AVEL CAPIDO
NOEL & CHERRY SANTOS
IKA VILLANUEVA
KRISTY LOPINGCO
ZSA² BIONAT
MERBEN TIU
ANNA CHUA
CANDICE BACABAC
MAE-ANN UO
MEYEN LIM
LUCK² LIM
JESS ABRERA
P.M. JR.
JOY CONIENDO
ELIZABETH CHIONGLO
APRIL *AILEE
MELISSA
ERNIE SAMBO
SONNE WHITAKER
KAREN GARCIA
HEART LOVE YOU
FR. SAM
FR. DODOY
FR. MITCH
FR. GATIA
FR. BEN
FR. EMIL
FR. NOLI
BRO. TONY
EDDIE ANG AND FAMILY
JUDGE TAZ RUFON
EDGAR TIU
BOB DECAMAR
CIARA LEDESMA
BANDY
SUSIE VALENCIA
BERT, BABY CASTRO
ROSARIO VALENCIA, WARLIT, YEYEN GUSTILO
NILO SORETTO
EDIONELA

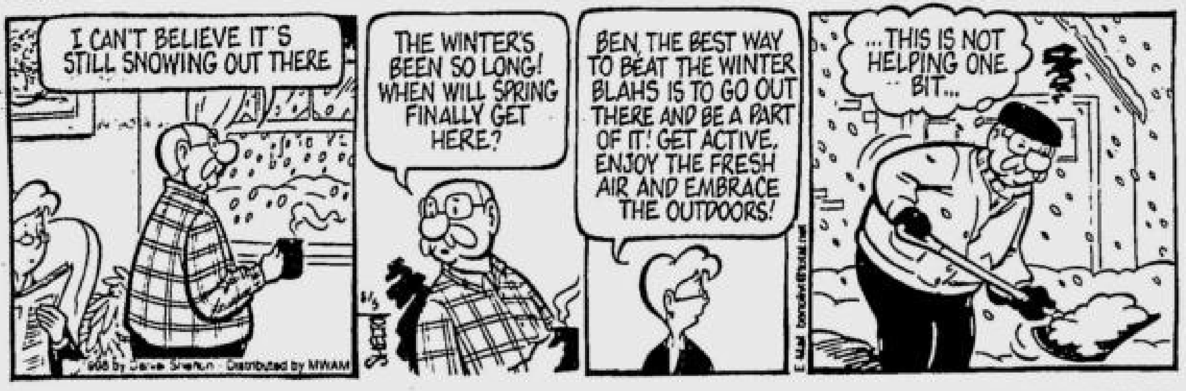
KATREENA

BY JOY CONIENDO


PINAGSAMA KAYO NG DIOS DANIL MAKAPANGYARIHAN ANG PAG-IBIG NINYO SA ISAT-ISA...
MARAMI NANG NAGTANGKANG PAGHIWALAYIN KAYONG MULI, PERO HINDI NAGTAGUMPAY, ISAMA MO NA ANG MAMA NIYA
HAAY NAKO! NAPAKAHABA NA NG LABANG DINAANAN NINYO!
ISA NA KAYO AT HINDI NA DALAWA... PAANO KAYO MAGHIHIWALAY?
632
TATAPUSIN: FEB 24, 2001

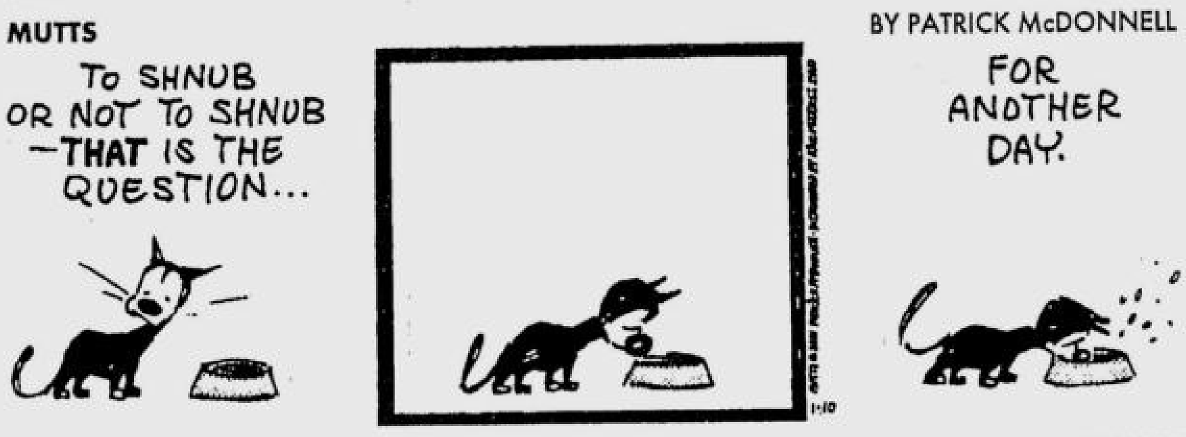
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S STILL SNOWING OUT THERE
THE WINTER'S BEEN SO LONG! WHEN WILL SPRING FINALLY GET HERE?
BEN, THE BEST WAY TO BEAT THE WINTER BLAHS IS TO GO OUT THERE AND BE A PART OF IT! GET ACTIVE. ENJOY THE FRESH AIR AND EMBRACE THE OUTDOORS!
...THIS IS NOT HELPING ONE BIT...
Distributed by MWAM
SHELTON

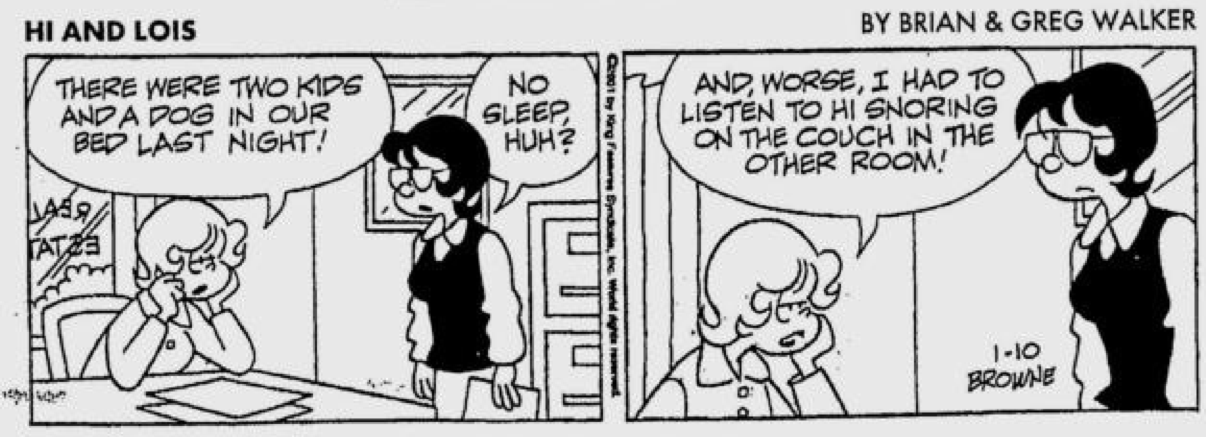
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


To SHNUB OR NOT To SHNUB —THAT IS THE QUESTION...
FOR ANOTHER DAY.
1-10

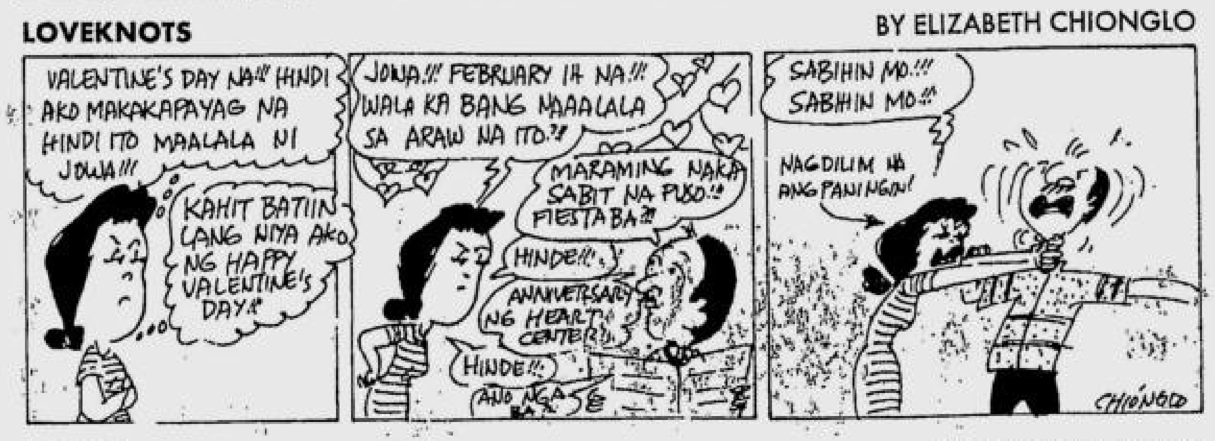
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


THERE WERE TWO KIDS AND A DOG IN OUR BED LAST NIGHT!
NO SLEEP, HUH?
REAL ESTATE
AND, WORSE, I HAD TO LISTEN TO HI SNORING ON THE COUCH IN THE OTHER ROOM!
1-10
BROWNE

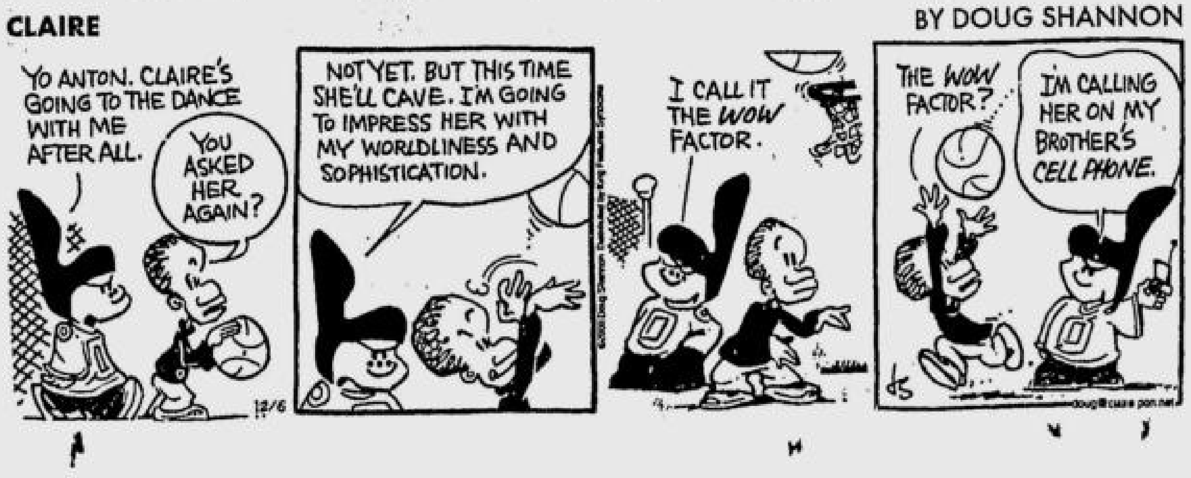
LOVEKNOTS

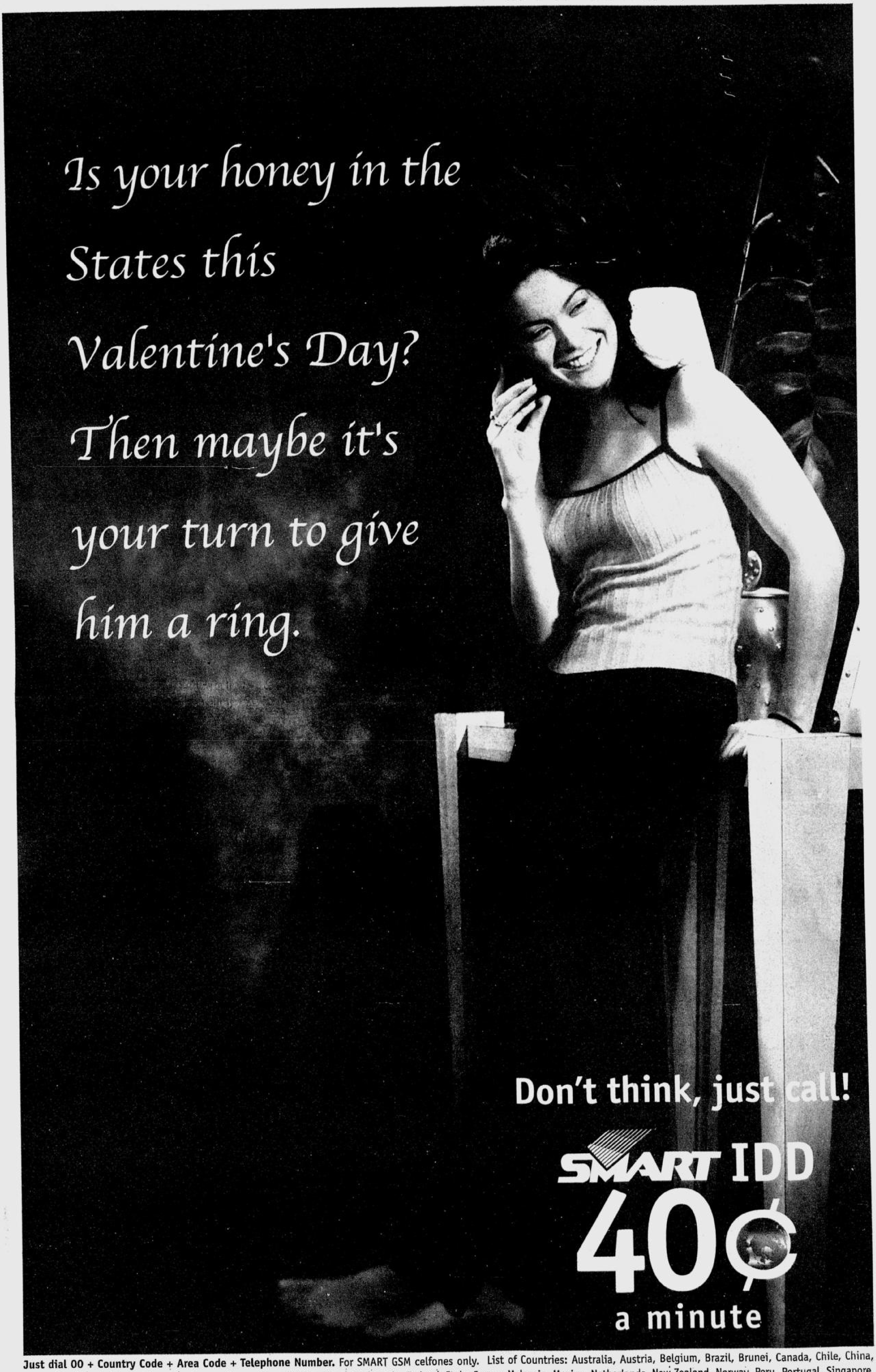
BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


VALENTINE'S DAY NA!!! HINDI AKO MAKAKAPAYAG NA HINDI ITO MAALALA NI JOWA!!!
KAHIT BATIIN LANG NIYA AKO NG HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!
JOWA!!! FEBRUARY 14 NA!!! WALA KA BANG MAAALALA SA ARAW NA ITO?!
MARAMING NAKA SABIT NA PUSO!! FIESTA BA?!
HINDE!!!
ANNIVERSARY NG HEART CENTER?!
HINDE!!!
ANO NGA BA
SABIHIN MO!!! SABIHIN MO!!!
NAGDILIM NA ANG PANINGIN!
CHIONGLO

CLAIRE

BY DOUG SHANNON


YO ANTON. CLAIRE'S GOING TO THE DANCE WITH ME AFTER ALL.
YOU ASKED HER AGAIN?
12/6
NOT YET. BUT THIS TIME SHE'LL CAVE. I'M GOING TO IMPRESS HER WITH MY WORLDLINESS AND SOPHISTICATION.
I CALL IT THE WOW FACTOR.
THE WOW FACTOR?
I'M CALLING HER ON MY BROTHER'S CELL PHONE.
DS



Is your honey in the States this Valentine's Day? Then maybe it's your turn to give him a ring.

Don't think, just call!

SMART IDD

40¢

a minute

Just dial 00 + Country Code + Area Code + Telephone Number. For SMART GSM celfones only. List of Countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guam, Hawaii, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vatican, Venezuela.

How to get yourself ready for 2bU's Cheezball Prom 2001 tonight

By Tim Yap

TONIGHT'S the night. Are you ready for an all-nighter prom parade?

Had a bad prom experience? Just about to go to your prom? Never went to a prom? Just want to party this Heart's Day? Now is your chance. Take advantage of this golden opportunity to soiree your spirits up.

At the strike of 9 p.m., all roads lead to Hutu's Hut on Kalayaan Avenue (via Makati Avenue—yup, that area before Rockwell). Singles, non-singles, feeling singles and wannabe singles and those into groups are all invited to partake of a fabulous prom extravaganza—2bU's Cheezball Prom 2001.

The garb

Take it from the title—it's a fun, fun cheese fest, so come in your tackiest, over-the-top, flamboyant prom gear. Forget all preconceived notions of what is fashionable. Over-indulge. Read: ruffles, animal print, loud colors. Mismatched madness equals an explosion of hip. Forget that little black dress even just for tonight!

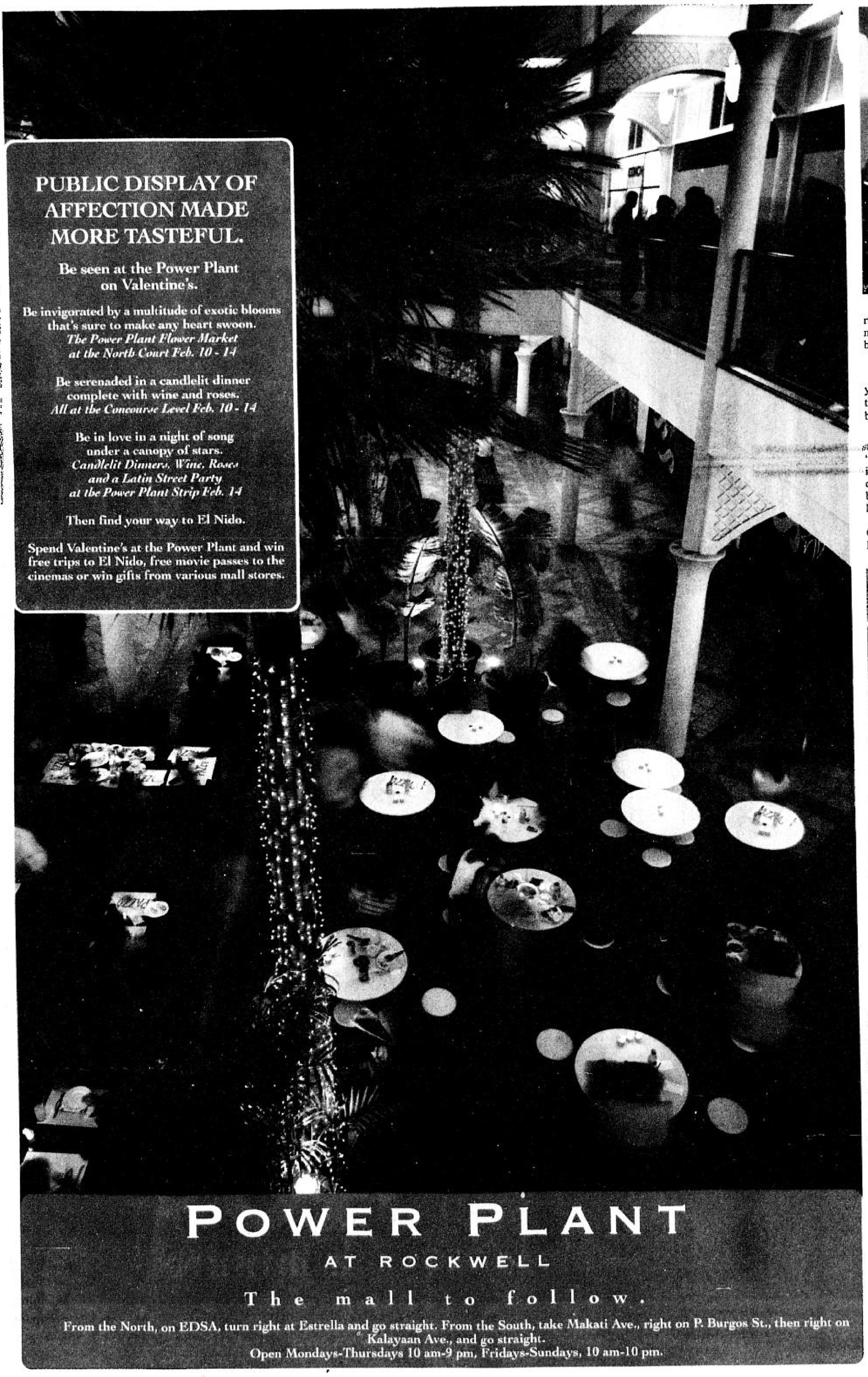
The gang

Hobnob with your favorite celebrities, bring your fantasy date or just choose a date there among the young A-list (that's attitude for you and me, baby!) present.

The party

Anything goes! Have your picture taken at the "Prom King and Queen" booth, quench your thirst in the punch bowl, burst some balloons, buy your date some roses, dance to the disco tunes provided by the surprise DJs and more. The clue here is NOT to behave!!!

So, what are you doing now reading this article? Go and prep yourself up for the ultimate Valentine's Day party! See ya all.



PUBLIC DISPLAY OF
AFFECTION MADE
MORE TASTEFUL.

Be seen at the Power Plant
on Valentine's.

Be invigorated by a multitude of exotic blooms
that's sure to make any heart swoon.
The Power Plant Flower Market
at the North Court Feb. 10 - 14

Be serenaded in a candlelit dinner
complete with wine and roses.
All at the Concourse Level Feb. 10 - 14

Be in love in a night of song
under a canopy of stars.
Candlelit Dinners, Wine, Roses
and a Latin Street Party
at the Power Plant Strip Feb. 14

Then find your way to El Nido.

Spend Valentine's at the Power Plant and win free trips to El Nido, free movie passes to the cinemas or win gifts from various mall stores.

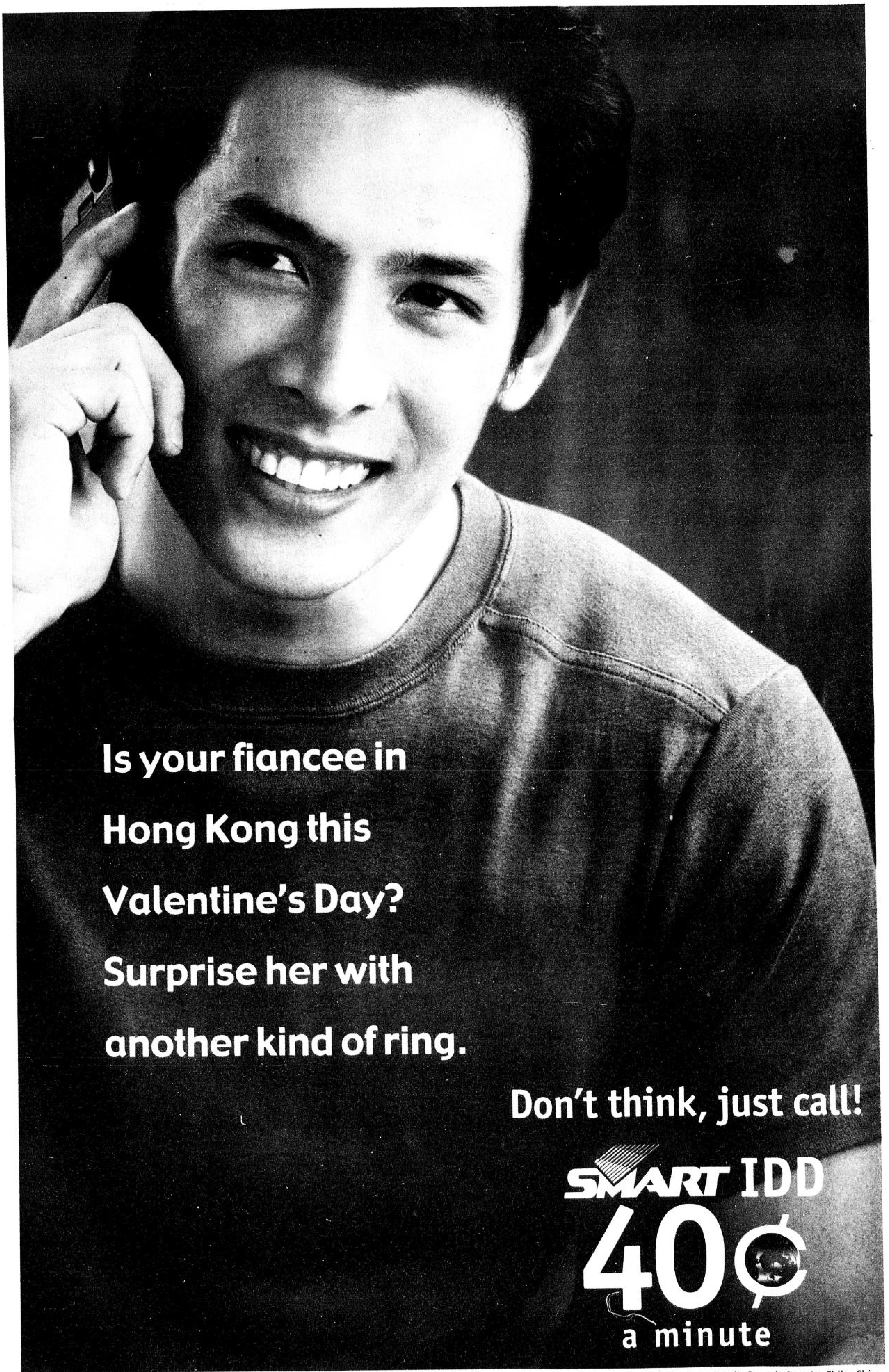
POWER PLANT
AT ROCKWELL
The mall to follow.

From the North, on EDSA, turn right at Estrella and go straight. From the South, take Makati Ave., right on P. Burgos St., then right on Kalayaan Ave., and go straight.
Open Mondays-Thursdays 10 am-9 pm, Fridays-Sundays, 10 am-10 pm.

UP-CMC holds concert on Feb. 17

THE UP-CMC Broadcasting Association, more popularly known as Broad Ass, a nonstock, nonprofit student organization of the University of the Philippines, based in the College of Mass Communication, will stage a concert on Feb. 17, the last night of the UP fair, at the UP Sunken Garden, Diliman, QC. Titled "Pinay: Womyn in Rock," the concert will feature performances by Barbie's Cradle, Color it Red, Cynthia Alexander, Brownbeat All-Stars, Put3ska, Agaw Agimat, Fatal Posporos, Imago, Session Road and more.

Tickets will be available at the gate. Call Alexa at 434-3596 or (0919) 319-3454.



Is your fiancee in Hong Kong this Valentine's Day? Surprise her with another kind of ring.

Don't think, just call!

SMART IDD

40¢ a minute

Just dial 00 + Country Code + Area Code + Telephone Number. For SMART GSM celfones only. List of Countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guam, Hawaii, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vatican, Venezuela.

The 2bU! prom directory

IF YOU'RE still wondering where you can get a boutonnière or corsage for your date, if you're still on the lookout for a perfect restaurant for your pre-prom dinner, or if you want to hire a limo to take her breath away, this list may just give you a few ideas. Clip this page, stick it on your filofax, and when you're done with it, you may pass it on to your younger siblings.

Prom time is power time. Here's a list to empower you with choices so that you can make the most important night of your youth extra memorable

Flower shops

Bing Pimentel the Florist
327 Katipunan Road
426-6810

Bright Image
Suite 403 MG Building Amorsolo,
Makati City
561-8035, 892-5606

The Flower Farm
Unit 102 Ground Floor Residencia
8888 cor. Pearl Drive and Amethyst
St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
635-0093, 633-7594

Precious Petals
101 Calamba St. (between Banawe
and D. Tuazon) Sta. Mesa Heights,
Quezon City
742-4749, 412-8324

Flowers by Sylvia
Zapote, Alabang
850-8892

Alegria Flower Shop
580 Malibay St., Edsa, Pasay City
512-7799, 512-7800

Holland Tulips
SM City North Edsa
Ground Floor, Main Building
Edsa corner North Avenue,
Quezon City
454-4970, 807-7854

Sweet Expressions
Unit 8 Fruition Building
BF Homes, Parañaque
807-5889, 807-5801

Esperanza's
116 Sct. Lozano St.,
Quezon City
924-4715, 922-7877

Tip:

Most florists require that you call a day or two for your orders so they'll have ample time to prepare.

Restaurants

Antonelli's Cucina
177 Yakal St., Makati City
844-0637, 816-6853

Annabel's Fine Dining
194 Tomas Morato St.,
Quezon City
922-7879

Blue Bacon and Green Eggs
27 Lantana St., New Manila,
Quezon City
721-7666

Carpaccio
7431 Yakal St.
San Antonio Vill.,
Makati City
843-7286, 867-3164

Il Ponticello
121 Valero St.
Salcedo Vill.,
Makati City
887-7168

Julio's Kitchen
57 Aguirre Ave.,
Parañaque
807-8109

Mario's
St. Francis Square,
Mandaluyong
634-3417, 634-3418

Matina
610 J. Nakpil St.,
Malate
525-0523

New Orleans
Corinthian Plaza Building
Makati City
817-2956, 818-8769

Sala
610 J. Nakpil St.,
524-6770

Zen
167 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave.,
Libis, Quezon City
637-8879

Limousine service:

Carlines Transportation and Rent a Car Services
Makati Tuscany Condominium,
Makati City
813-1976

Salons

Propaganda
4/F Rustan's, Glorietta 4, Makati City
893-4098, 813-3739 loc. 266

BCBG
G/F 6750 Ayala Ave., Makati City
812-4590, 812-7379

Franck Provost
Jupiter Avenue, Makati City
895-3401, 897-0629

Paradigm Personal Care Salon
Glorietta 2, Makati City
840-3885
Shangrila, Makati City
813-5002

Piandre Salon
112 Zodiac St., Makati City
890-4097

Regine's
Park Square 2, Makati City
893-2736

Salon de Manila
732-1490 (Q.C.)
817-6627 (Makati)

Heart and Hand Salon
Unit 107 Parc Chateau Condominium, Garnet St., Ortigas Center,
Pasig City
635-4996, 635-4998

Emphasis Salon
Rockwell Information Center
Estrella cor. Amapola Sts.
Makati City
898-0818, 898-0819, 898-0802, 728-5239

From favorite celebs to prom night

TEEN Philippines, the local franchise of Teen US, keeps teens glued this month with 118 pages filled with every teen's favorite celebrities, beauty tips, giddy romances and life stories. Plus a special section devoted to every teen's happiness and horror—the prom.

Planning for a life-altering revamp? Teen helps you get started from the outside with "Time for a Cool Change." Switch from dame to damsel gothic queen to sweet 16 with just a flip of the page. Going for something less permanent but more fun? Try on these wacky wigs in "Tress to Kill." We guarantee you'll have a good head on your shoulders after the temporary transformation.

Head over heels over The Moffatts? Check out our exclusive interview with the talented (and ultra cute) foursome to find out why the guys shed their boy-band-happy masks for a more edgy look and sound that's closer to the truth.

Hungry for some ear candy? Catch a star as the heavenly Bituin talks about her life and music. Pop a happy tune with the guys of A1 as they take on the world. This issue's MTV supplement dishes the meat behind the rising success of Vertical Horizon and The Corrs. Also welcome MTV's newest baby, MTV Philippines on Channel 41 for more Pinoy-flavored music and lifestyles.

Clueless about that special boy in your life? Teen frees your mind with the answers to "How Can I Tell if He Likes Me?" Then join us as we look beyond the chocolate wrappings to deliver "The True Meaning of Valentine." Get some reel remedies from "Video Prescriptions." It's going to prove that happy endings don't just happen in movies.

Preparing for the prom? Be a step ahead with Teen's "Prom Special." From preening to primping, and to actually enjoying the night, we lay out the velvet carpet for you and your date. From makeup, accessories, salons and designer threads, Teen's there to make your prom shine. And speaking of shine, your favorite celebrities dish their own prom highlights and disasters!

Love is definitely in the air with Teen. Catch the Valentine fever, so go out and get your own copy of Teen Philippines' February issue now! Available in all leading newsstands and bookstores at only P95.

Teen Philippines is published by Next Media Inc.

Slip into Ultimate Freshness

HYGEIA
FEMININE HYGIENIC UNDERWEAR

The popular customs associated with Saint Valentine's Day undoubtedly had their origin in a conventional belief generally received in England and France during the Middle Ages, that on February 14, i.e. half way through the second mon th of the year, the birds began to pair.

Thus in Chaucer's Parliament of Foules we read:

For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's day
When every foul cometh ther to choose his mate.

For this reason the day was looked upon as specially consecrated to lovers and as a proper occasion for writing love letters and sending lovers' tokens that will truly be appreciated. HYGEIA is one gift that can truly be appreciated. With Hygeia a woman can slip into ultimate freshness making her special day truly wonderful.

HYGEIA is widely available in the following stores:

SHOEMART OUTLETS
• SM-BACOOR(soon) • SM-CEBU(soon) • SM-CUBAO • SM FAIRVIEW(soon) • SM-HARRISON PLAZA(soon) • SM-ILOILO (soon) • SM-MAKATI • SM-MANDURIAO(soon) • SM-MANILA(soon) • SM-NORTH EDSA • SM- LAS PINAS(soon) • SM-PAMPANGA (soon) • SM- MEGAMALL • SM-STA. MESA (soon) • SM-Quiapo (soon)
HEALTH & BEAUTY OUTLETS:
• SM-MEGAMALL • SM-CITY ANNEX • SM-FAIRVIEW • SM-CENTERPOINT • SM-MANILA YMCA • SM-SOUTMALL • SM-BACOOR • SM-PAMPANGA
EVER DEPARMENT STORES
• EVER-CAINTA • EVER-COMMONWEALTH • EVER-GRAND CENTRAL
CROSSING DEPARMENTS STORES:
• CROSSING-EDSA • CROSSING-RIZAL AVENUE
ISETANN DEPARMENTS STORES:
• ISETANN-CARRIEDO • ISETANN-CUBAO • ISETANN-RECTO
RUSTANS DEPARMENTS STORES:
• RUSTANS-MAKATI • RUSTANS SHANGRI-LA EDSA
CINDERELLA
• MEGAMALL (soon) • ALABANG (soon) • NORTH MALL (soon) • ALI MALL (soon)
EMILENE'S DRUGSTORES:
• SM-CENTERPOINT • SHOPWISE-ALABANG • BINAKAYAN • RUSTAN'S CUBAO • RUSTAN'S HARRISON PLAZA

HYGEIA IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING STORES:

• ALL EMILENE'S OUTLETS
• ALL FARMACIA ROSALINA'S
• ALABANG SHOP WISE
• STA. LUCIA EAST DEPT. STORE
• CALOOCAN FASHION CIRCLE
• CALOOCAN JACKMAN EMPORIUM
• PLAZA FAIR MAKATI
• THE LANDMARK-MAKATI
• ROBINSON-ERMITA
• WOMAN THE STORE-MAKATI

PROVINCIAL OUTLETS:
• OCAMPO'S ANGELES CITY
• OTIS METRO-BUTUAN
• POULEX DEPT. STORE-CABANATUAN
• CSI MARKET SQUARE
• TRENDLINE CENTER-ILIGAN
• JOHN JOHN GROUP-LA UNION
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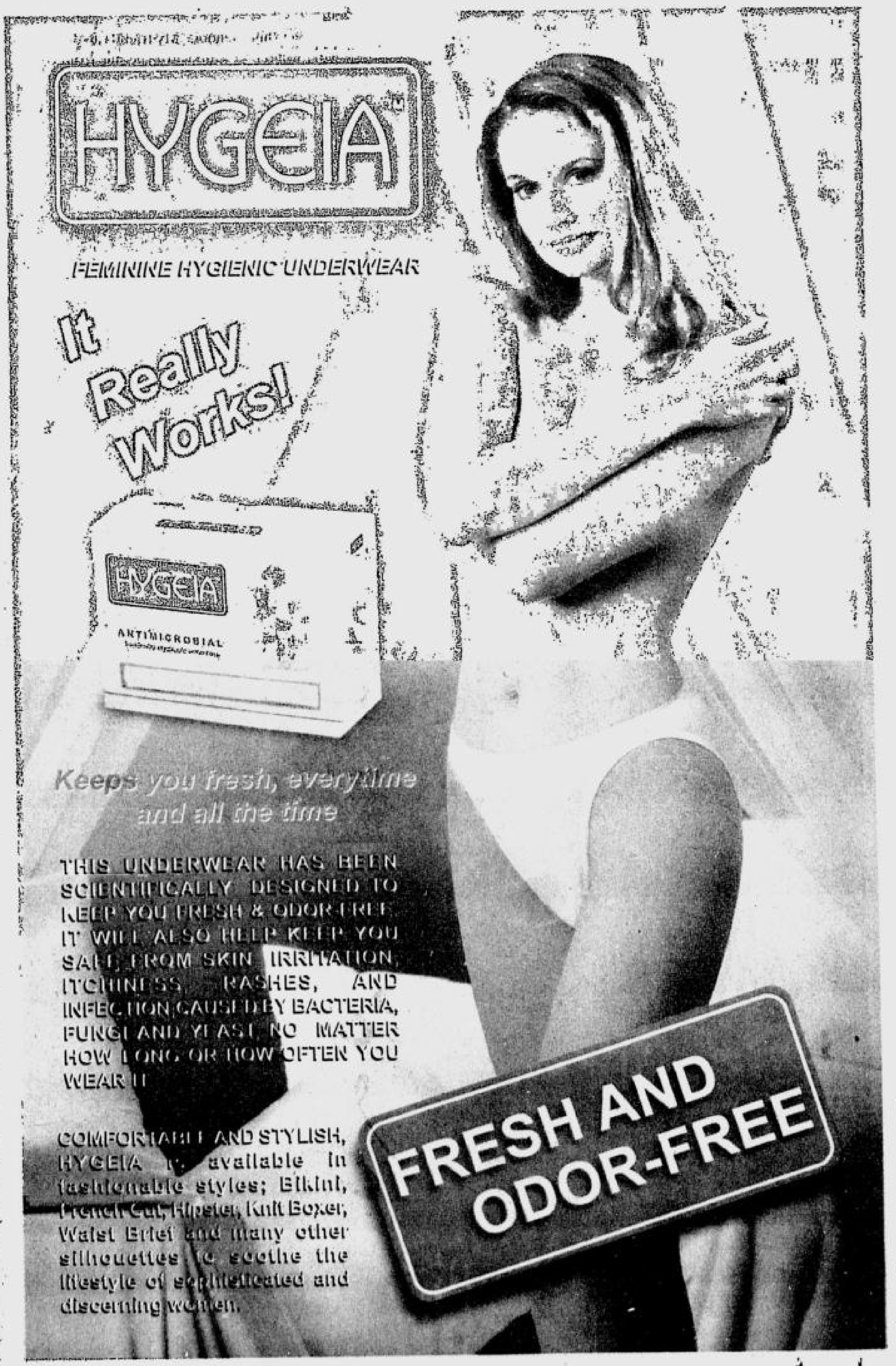
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ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Post-prom gigs for a budget

By Jules Alcantara

EVERYONE has to have a plan (or *gimik*) if only to make the prom night special for you and your date. It's just too boring to just pick up your date and traipse over to the prom and spend the whole night just staring at other couples. You have to give one of the most special nights of your young life a different kind of twist.

Prom food is not exactly known for being delicious (thank God it's not or else a lot of guys and girls would be bursting at the seams after the meal). The ritual of analyzing and criti-

POST-PROM/ p.F2

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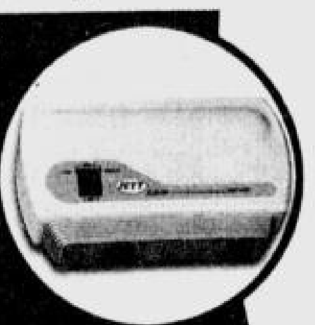

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ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Post-prom gigs for a budget

(From page F1)

cizing (in other words, making *pintas*) what the others are wearing could get irksome and dull after some time. Checking out whose date looks the hottest and the most gorgeous is a whole lot of fun, but the swirl of skirts and colors passing by you could get visually assaulting after the first hour or so. After the requisite two to three dances (preferably slow) and the question of who will be this year's prom royalty has already been resolved, what are you left to do?

You've got to have a plan.

Okay, okay, before you go and have a full-blown anxiety attack, read on and create a plan based on your budget for the night.

P500

What to do after the prom? You may treat her to a late-night movie or midnight 'siomai'

A plan doesn't have to cost a whole lot of moolah. You can be cute and have *siomai* at any Select outlet (in your full prom attire) and mocha frappucino and waffles at the ubiquitous Starbucks. You can catch a late-night showing at Glorietta 4 and spend some quiet and hopefully quality time with your date. Go to Timezone and play all your favorite games, especially Dance Dance Revolution (just make sure you remove your heels before you start stomping to the beat). Share a Friday's Banana Split Pie with your date. Or you can drive over to Orosa in Malate and partake of the delicious La Pinay at Café Breton. And speaking of driving, you might just want to go the distance and spend your money on gas and hie over to Picnic Grove in Tagaytay. Just make sure you don't drink and drive.

P1,000

For a grand, you and your date can go to the very happening Il Ponticello and share a couple of drinks and appetizers. Watch the band of the night at Strumm's or Hard Rock Café. Didn't get enough of dancing at your prom? Spend the rest of the night dancing at Wherelse, 78Orange or Mas y Mas. Entrance fee usually comes with a free drink, and if you're wise, you can make it last for an hour or two.

You need a change of setting? Check out Hutu's Hut at Kalayaan Avenue in Makati and be transported to another milieu.

You want to be a bit different and more romantic? Buy a bottle of wine (or wine cooler) and a variety of cheeses (or chips and different types of dip), and decorate the yard or garden of your house. After the prom, bring him or her to your garden and make sure your CD player is stacked with all-favorite romantic ditties.

P2,000

Get her a bouquet of flowers (apart from the corsage, in case you get her one) and give it to her after the prom. Apart from the flowers, get her a gift or a token of appreciation like a cake and a cute stuffed toy. For guys, get him a pair of cuff links and make sure you give it to him when he picks you up.

The Lobby of Manila Pen offers a delicious variety of ice cream dishes for those who are craving for a sugar rush before or after the prom. If you plan to eat dinner before you go to the prom, make reservations at Zen, Sugi or Via Mare.

P5,000

Wow! You have 5 grand to burn? Hire a limousine for the night. Take your date to Enchanted Kingdom. By the time you get to the prom, you and your date are already bonded. You and your date can spend that money on a whole day of pre-prom pampering at The Rockwell Spa. You and your date will be in good spirits the whole night.

You want to keep a memento of your memorable night? Hire a videographer (exclusively for you and your date) who will follow you everywhere and let him capture each and every moment. Make sure you both get a copy of the coverage.

Wait…your budget is 5 grand? If I were you, I'd keep at least half of it. Blowing it all off in one night would be a "sin," according to one of our correspondents, Tammy David.

For sure, people will give you a look or two should you decide to paint the town red since you and your date are dressed to the nines, but who cares, right? You can go back to being anonymous the next day.

Romantic funtime at Festival Supermall

YES, indeed, one can celebrate Love Day without having to spend an arm and a leg, so to speak. There are numerous things one can do on a tight budget and yet still have fun.

For those who live an active leisure life, there's X-Site at Festival Supermall in Filinvest Alabang. X-Site is a covered amusement center for teens and the young at heart which offers state-of-the-art and safe fun rides. Ride through the X-treme Coaster, a bullet-speed roller coaster or take the bumper cars aptly called X-plo Drive. Race against each other in the Xyber Trax go-karts. For the more adventurous ones, the stomach-churning ride called X-Ta Seat can test your threshold for spins and whirls. Each ride can cost between P30 to P40 per person only.

A friendly match at the arcades can also thrill. Check out the more famous twosome games at Tom's World. There's Brave Fire Fighters, or Panic Park, both computer games with various levels of competition. Keyboard Mania is Dance Revolution on a piano where couples can play love tunes on keyboard and score points if they hit the right keys. A token to play the game ranges from P5 to P10. Tom's World Videoke rooms may also be reserved for an hour for P180. Grab a hotdog or chips from Taters, just at the entrance of X-Site, and share this sumptuous and filling snack with your loved one as you croon your favorite love tunes.

Festival Supermall also offers various choices of food at value-for-money prices. Taco Maker offers a discount promo on its Burrito Grande. Customers can purchase their second Burrito Grande at 50 percent off. Until Feb. 18, customers can join their "Hearts in Love Valentine Treat" and get a chance to win instant prizes upon a minimum purchase of P150.

For P229, Pizza Hut offers a cool deal, which includes a regular Meatlovers Pizza, Mushroom soup, Pepsi and Fudge Brownies for two. A surprise gift to all lady guests can be availed of until Feb. 26.

As a fitting tribute on this day of love, give a gift of sweets to your ladylove from Delifrance. Take a pick from Strawberry Danish, Dates and Nut Cake, Strawberry Fruit Basket and Large Strawberry Tarts.

For a filling meal of burgers, Flamers offers charbroiled hamburgers, chicken and fresh salads. Flamers has a top-it-yourself counter for its condiments so customers can fill their burgers with lettuce, tomato, mustard, catsup, onions to their heart's delight.

Sandwich lovers can get a load of Subway's submarine sandwiches. Dine in or to-go, the various concoctions are filling yet healthy. One can simply take out a foot-long sandwich and watch the latest hit movies at the Festival Cinema Gold, which offers the "best seats in the South." The last two seats (at the back) of Cinema Gold are love seats so couples can warmly cuddle. On screen on Valentine's week at the Festival Cinemas are "Castaway" featuring Tom Hanks, "102 Dalmatians," "Live Show" and "Family Man."

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48-3947: (Name) I will never forget the time when our eyes met

48-3948: (Name) Somehow within the incredible mystery of life, we met. lucky are we.

48-3955: (Name) The mystery, the passion, the adventure continues.

48-3956: (Name) A single lifetime is not enough to spend in love with you.

48-3957: (Name) Just thought I'd send a little something your way.

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Postcards

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48-3968: (Name) A single lifetime is not enough to spend in love with you. Happy Valentine's Day! (Sender)

48-3969: (Name) Just thought I'd send a little something your way. Happy Valentine's Day! (Sender)

48-3970: (Name) Happy Valentine's Day to the one that stole my heart. (Sender)

48-3971: (Name) Having a friend like you puts a song in my heart.

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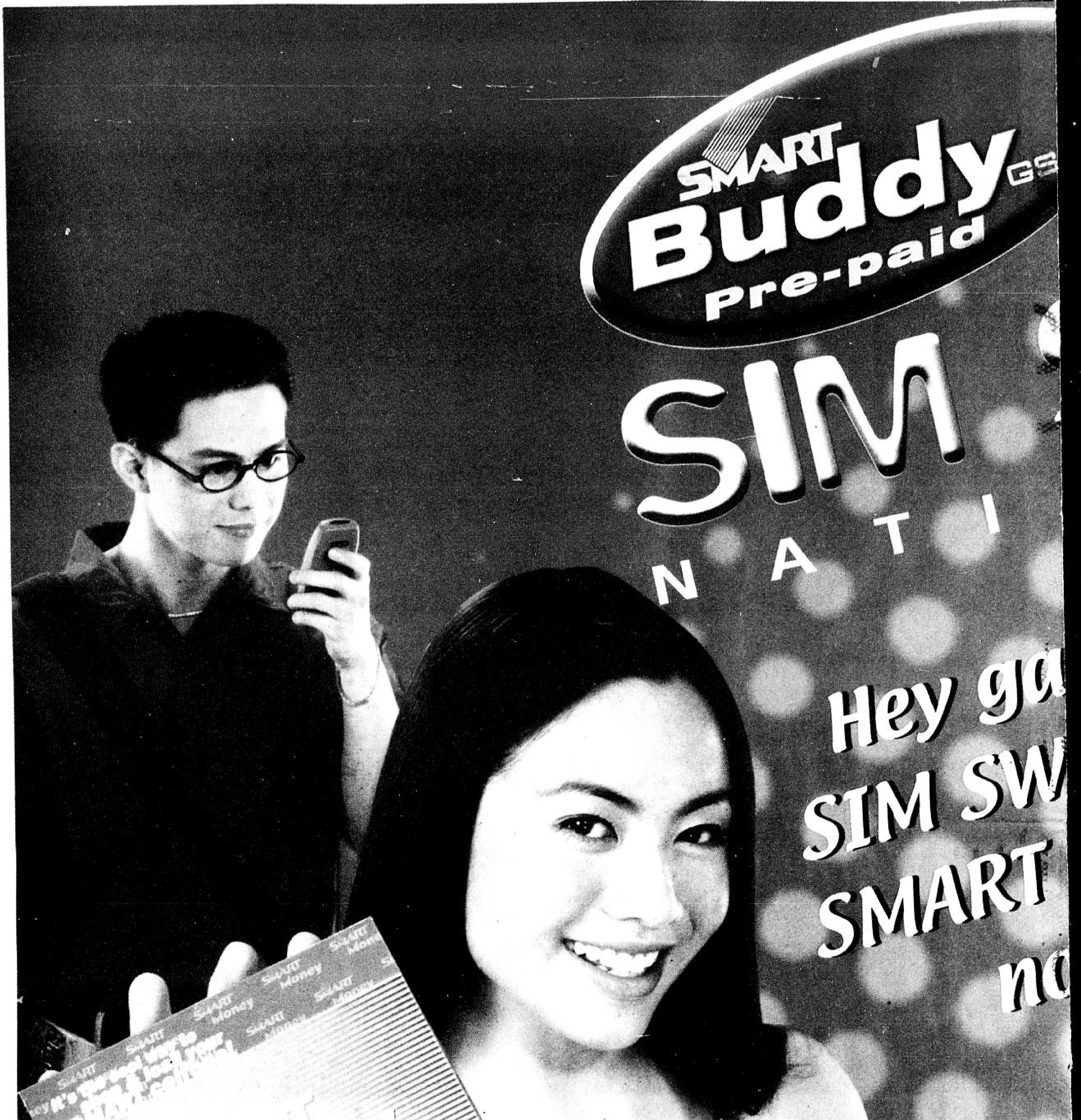

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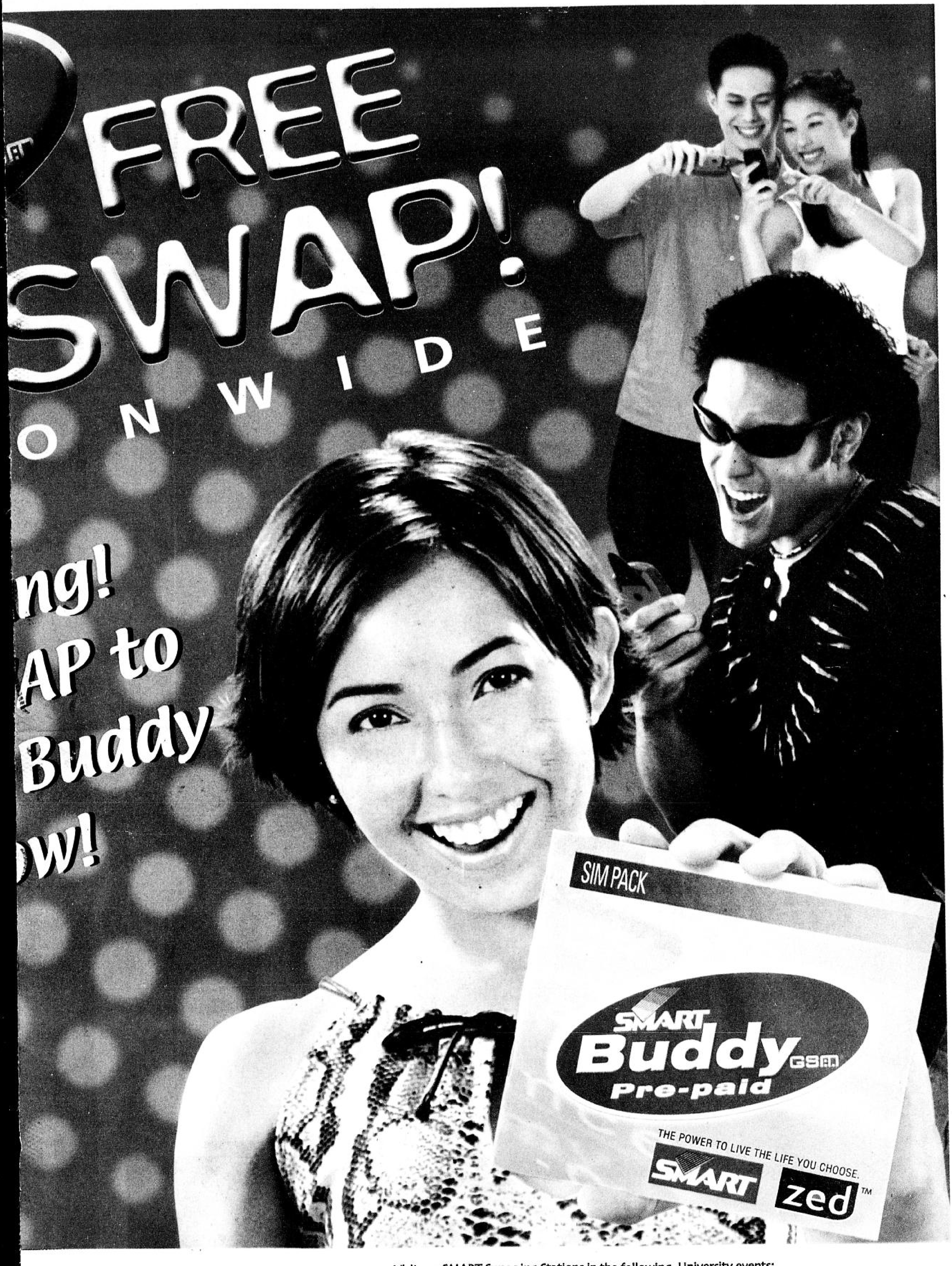
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Tom Hanks anchors the profound 'Castaway'

By Alexis Loinaz

REVIEW

WHEN legendary director Georges Melies began making innovative short films at the turn of the 20th century, cinema as an art form was largely considered a celluloid outgrowth of the stage. Back then, the camera was put in place simply to capture the performances of the actors—shots were mostly static, footage was left to roll for long periods of time and the concept of cutting images together had yet to catch on.

> This film empowers the actor and boldly brings him back to center stage, just like it did in the days of silent films

And just like in the theater, actors took center stage in many of Melies' silent films: their movements were exaggerated and dramatic, and their antics had a vaudeville-like charm.

But with every new technological breakthrough in filmmaking—from the introduction of sound and color to the advent of special effects and digital imagery—it was the actor who became most susceptible to getting lost in the artifice. Today, a thespian's performance can be easily muddled by melodramatic music, special effects or fast-paced editing (accompanied by the de rigueur soundtrack hit). In many contemporary films, the artifice has become the attraction.

Watching "Castaway," the audacious new movie from the "Forrest Gump" team of Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis, I was reminded how much films tend to disenfranchise actors by relying on these artifices—mainly because "Castaway" does the opposite: it actually strips them all away. By doing so, the film empowers the actor and boldly brings him back to center stage, just like it did in the days of silent films.

"Castaway's" story is deceptively simple: FedEx efficiency expert Chuck Noland (Hanks) is marooned on a remote Pacific island after his plane crashes en route to a last minute holiday delivery. For four years, Chuck must fend for himself and battle the elements, all the while making-do with the seemingly inconsequential debris that washes ashore: a pair of ice skates, a fancy gown, even a volleyball. While trying to survive, Chuck goes back to the basics: he learns how to hunt for food, create fire and make primitive caveman-like drawings

But after four years of isolation, Chuck must finally make a crucial decision: to either accept his lot and remain—even die—on the island, or brave the waves and try to escape. By choosing to leave, however, Chuck must ultimately deliver himself unto the sea. And by doing so, he will not only have to overcome it, but to trust and respect it as well.

Unconventional

Make no mistake: "Castaway" is a far cry from every "Swiss Family Robinson" and "Survivor" cliché imaginable. In fact, a large chunk of the movie is spent bucking conventional Hollywood wisdom. For an hour or so, when Chuck is stranded on the island, the film basically eschews all orthodox dramatic devices: there is no music on the soundtrack, there are no feel-good flashback scenes, there is no narration and there is practically no dialogue (save for chats Chuck has with his newfound "friend," the scene-stealing volleyball he's now named "Wilson").

What we get is silence. Volumes of it. That and the sound of churning waves, the howling of the wind, the crackling of firewood and the rustling of leaves.

The beautiful thing about "Castaway" is that it is smarter than convention. The film knows that silence can be infinitely more potent than noise; that churning waves can be more maddening than a roomful of chatty people; that the howling wind can be more furious than any scream; that crackling firewood can be more animated than any laugh; and that rustling leaves can be more melodious than any song.

Yes, "Castaway" might be bereft of conversation, but it is teeming with more profound subliminal dialogue than many other films I've seen—dialogue that Chuck has with the elements around him who test his mettle, day in and day out. In a way, the silence and ambient noise become characters in themselves—as gentle as any protagonist or as violent as any antagonist. That's more than I can say about many other films that talk so much more, but say so much less.

In many ways, "Castaway" is a compelling cinematic soliloquy—utterly Zen in its approach to solitude, undeniably solemn in its respect for nature and ultimately humbled in the face of forces more powerful than any human being. More than "Robinson Crusoe," "Castaway" actually recalls the spiritual overtones of Ernest Hemingway's "The Old Man and the Sea," with its meditation on man versus nature (you can pretty much call this movie "The Young Man and the Island").

Purity and magic

I think it's wonderful that director Zemeckis, working with a script by William Broyles Jr., has mounted a film this experimental within Hollywood's typically commercial framework. After all, Zemeckis has the pedigree to get a film like this off the ground (he won the 1994 directing Oscar for "Forrest Gump"); thankfully, the director backs up that pedigree with an adeptness at establishing mood and atmosphere. Many times, I felt as desperate and isolated as Chuck on that island.

Unfortunately, while the solitary sequences of "Castaway" are intense and profound, the film as a whole suffers from a rather uneven narrative. Early on, the film goes to great lengths to create a slumbering sense of time—days go on and on while Chuck holds out for hope. But about two-thirds into the movie, the timeline jumps forward abruptly and we see a thin and scraggly Chuck four years later, yet we somehow don't feel like much time has passed.

Without giving too much away, "Castaway" also loses steam once it enters into its rather sappy third act—one that does not take place on the island. By this time, the film sadly gives in to the conventions it's managed to avoid (the melodramatic music, the greeting card-style dialogue), which makes the silence of the previous hour all the more priceless. Then again, because Chuck's survival odyssey is so gripping, anything that comes after it is bound to be anticlimactic.

But when all's been said and done, this is neither Zemeckis' show, nor the island's, nor Wilson the Volleyball's; "Castaway" is truly, magnificently Hanks' triumph. Few actors

would be brazen enough to pull off what is essentially a theatrical monologue committed to film—one that hearkens back to the silent film days of Georges Melies when movies existed to capture an actor's performance in all its purity and magic.

Moreover, few actors would be able to pull this off with such a startling physical transformation (Hanks reportedly lost 50 pounds and grew his beard, and production had to be shut down for a year in the meantime).

With dignity and grace, Hanks delivers a raw and affecting performance and anchors a shining one-man show. Although the film as whole might be marred by some narrative stumbling blocks, in the end "Castaway" will cast away any doubts why Hanks is one of the most acclaimed actors of our time. For that alone, "Castaway" easily stays afloat.

E-mail the author at lextat@mkt.webling.com

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Switching on hip power

The opening of the new Swatch store in the new Rockwell Power Plant was power tripping at its most fun

Yaparazzi

Tim Yap

STYLE TRIOMPHE. Tessa Prieto-Valdes, Miguel Ramos and Agot Isidro

"IT'S our turn, switch it on—the time is now." I wrote this on the small sheet of paper as message for us youths upon registration at the opening launch of the new Swatch store and the unveiling of the sprawling Rockwell Power Plant mall.

"I don't usually attend lunches," said a stylish VIP member of the press, "but for the love of Tita Virgie..." She need not finish her sentence. Everybody knows that indeed, when **Virgie Ramos**, godmother of hip-pop—behind such stellar brands as Swatch, Benetton and Gift Gate—calls for a gathering, everyone comes.

From fashion gods to media mavens and socialites to pop icons and political personalities, the Swatch space was filled, wall to wall, with hip members of society. Playing hostesses were two women from varying schools of fashion—**Agot Isidro** of minimalist chic and **Tessa Prieto-Valdes** of frou-frou fame. (I really think she deserves a tv show.)

The stylish duo initiated parlor games that would make a shy teener blush—tongue twisters, breath stretchers and body benders—all of which the press present gamely obliged. Of course, with savvy Swatches at stake, who wouldn't?

A pasta and skewered scallop buffet, splendidly catered by **Gaita Fores'** Cibo, was laid out on the side while fish bowls with watches was the table's centerpiece. Post lunch, the regal entry of Senate royalty **Loren Legarda-Leviste** was much awaited. "Guess what Swatch the senator is wearing?" was on everybody's lips.

She stormed in with a red-strapped Typical Square Swatch—their latest one with a white cross in the middle—the same one I'm wearing now. Then she was in for a surprise when, lifting the black curtain of the new store, a half-naked hunk appeared behind the glass window of the Swatch store. It was **Troy Montero**, smiling naughtily to the senator, saying, "Take me!"

A spontaneous bursting of balloons coincided with the shower of golden coins that filled the venue with great vibe and endless cheer. To this, the lady with the Midas touch was seen smiling from ear to ear.

SWITCH ON. Marq and Isabella at the Swatch store opening

SUMMIT SESSION. Marie Santos, Myrza Sison, Mia Fausto and Maddy Madrid

TRENDINGS. Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, Virgie Ramos and Anton San Diego

YOUTH POWER. Ria Francisco, Jaycee Dee, Tara Santos and Eric Ramos

ANGEL IN DENIM. "Breakfast's" Angel Jacob

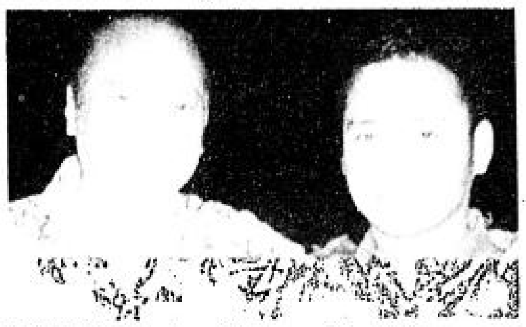
MEGA star Sari Yap

SWITCH to Swatch man Troy Montero

FEARLESS females Kara Magsanoc-Alikpala and Sen. Loren Legarda-Leviste

Like father, like son

That evening, I rushed amid Friday night traffic to get to the Magsaysay Center where **Francisco Magsaysay**, or Paco, as he is known to friends and supporters, was celebrating his birthday.



MAMBO, mambo with Jun and Paco Magsaysay

A jazz group was serenading Paco's dinner guests while a vast buffet of Filipino delights from chicken pandan to *lechon* was being served. Of course, dad **Jun Magsaysay** was present, exchanging pleasantries with guests. It was a beautifully intimate gathering, with none of the usual *trapos* lurking around with overly made up wives or mistresses.

I spotted some political scions, though—**Romulos, Quezons** and **Levistes**—all immersed in wonderful conversation as Paco hopped from table to table with his beautiful wife **Chiho**. One could sense the low-key and sincere profile that the Magsaysays exuded—no speeches or song numbers, no flashy movie stars and fanfare. Just plain 'ol good food and great company.

Indeed, "Magsaysay is my guy!"

The weekend before, I dropped by Manila councilor **Don Bagatsing**'s joint bithday dinner with friend **Anton de Guzman**. Refreshingly pretty wife **Grace**, (they got married just recently) who also prepared the feast that night, was on hand to entertain their guests.

It was a Saturday, but instead of heading off to the clubs, I opted to bask in the company of this laughter-filled, Southridge-bred pals, whose idea of a weekend is a quiet get-together of good friends, playing Monopoly, card games and charades. I never had so much fun.

Indeed, it's hip to be square.

BIRTHDAY boy Don Bagatsing and wife Grace

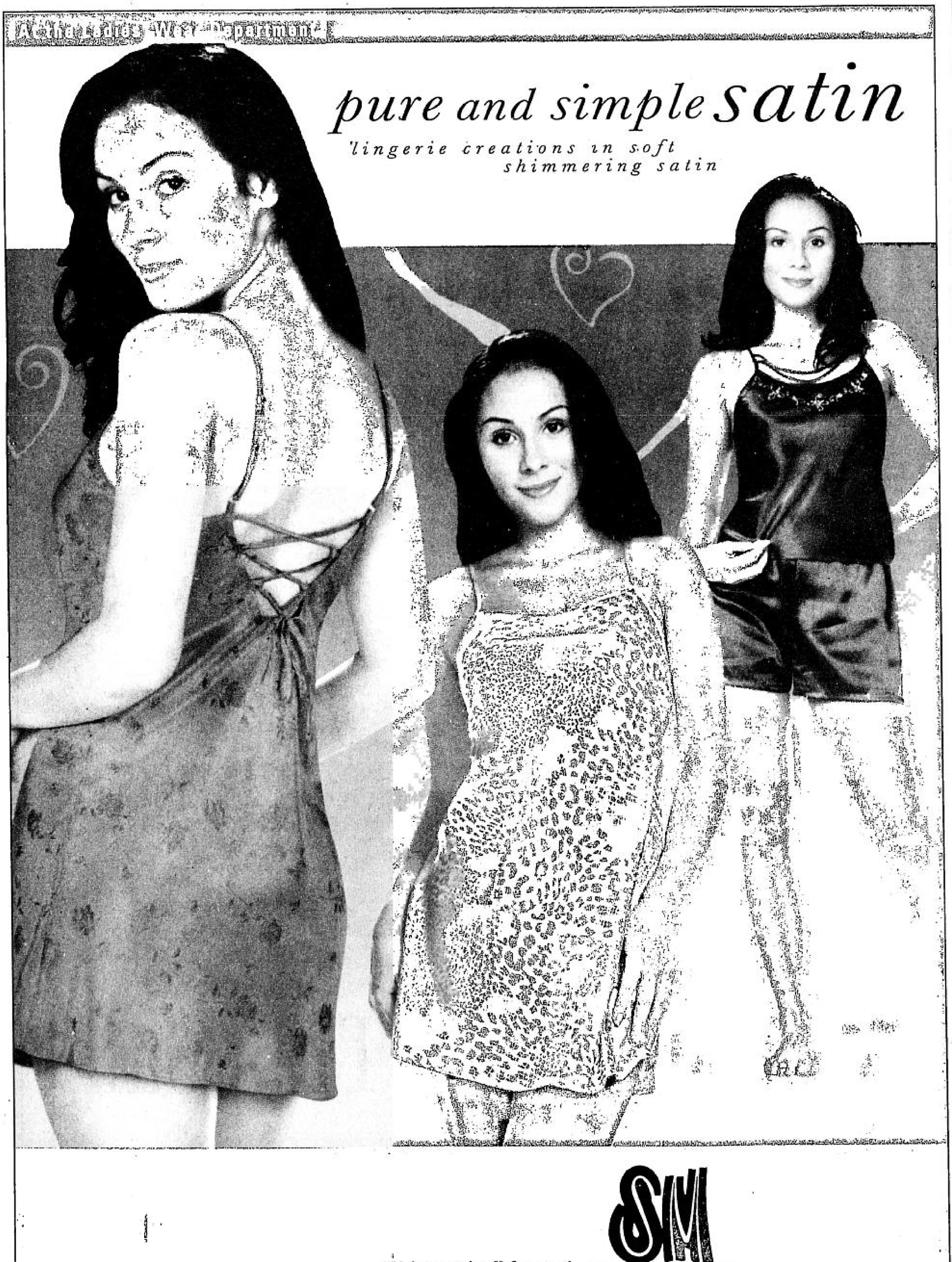
ANNA Buenaventura exudes effortless chic.

UNTARNISHED REPUTATION. Mons Romulo-Tantoco, Paco Magsaysay and Leah Salterio

TRENDY TANDEM. Teen's Bebeth Timbol and Jeannie Hernandez

DANDY DUO. Olive Isidro and Monique Villonco

PHOTOS: TIM YAP



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First Son

The President's youngest is a dreamboat in the making

By Cathy Babao Guballa

HE has his father's kind eyes and his mother's dazzling smile. This young man seems to be the kind of boy every mother would dream of for her daughter. Following his grandfather's and father's footsteps was the most natural thing to do for the boyish 26-year-old Dato Macapagal Arroyo who is in second-year law student at the Ateneo.

Mom in command

Dato's childhood was what he describes as a very happy one spent in the Arroyo ancestral home in La Vista. "Our home was the village clubhouse." He recalls how, on most weekends, 20 children would be there at one time, playing volleyball, racing down the driveway and going on a food trip with their parents in tow afterward.

"She's a hands-on mom" is how Dato describes the President's mothering style. "When I was younger, she put up a whiteboard because I was always disappearing. I was always supposed to put down where I was—for example, practice, at my friend's house, or I'm going to eat out, etc… I did this until I was in college."

A stickler for rules and making sure that the children followed their schedules, Dato adds that Mom was "*tutok talaga* and pretty strict when it came to curfew. "It was easier to make *lambing* to my dad—but with Mom, well, you could be grounded for breaking the rules." He further adds, "She put a premium on honesty. *Kung ano man yung kasalanan mo, dodoble pa yun kung nagsinungaling ka*. So better *kung aminin mo na lang*," he says, looking back on his mom's discipline style.

Leisure time

An Atenean through and through, Dato spent the last two years of college at Ateneo de Naga, renting an apartment and sharing it with two college buddies. "Those were the most enjoyable two years of my life," he tells us. Back in Manila, he is bent on finishing his law degree, working for his father's law firm and getting married. "Not necessarily in that order. Whichever *na lang* comes first," he grins impishly.

Whatever little leisure time Dato now has is spent playing basketball with the friends he has had since high school. "My friends are the people Mikey and I grew up with—people from Balara,

FIRST/ p.G4

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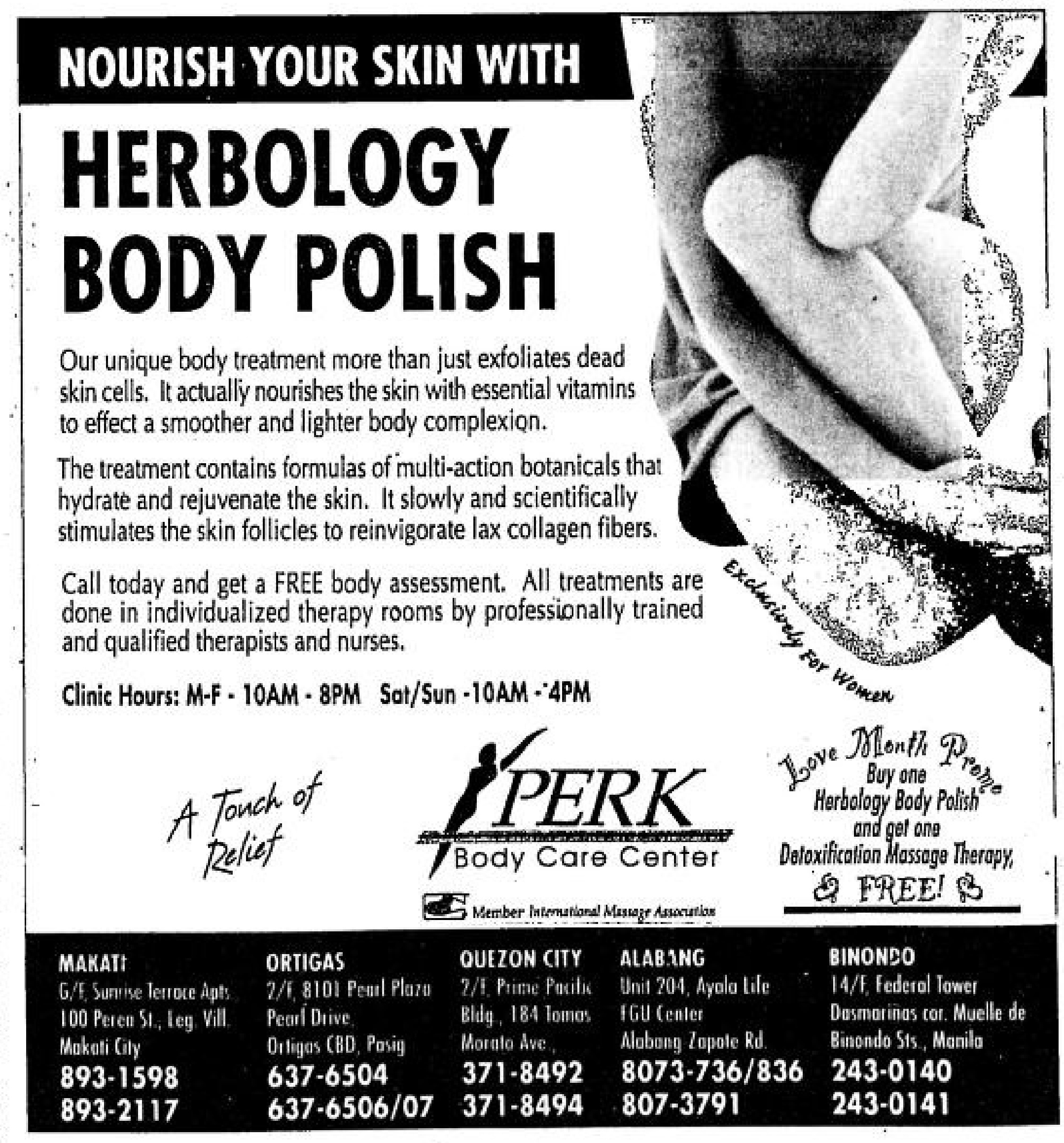

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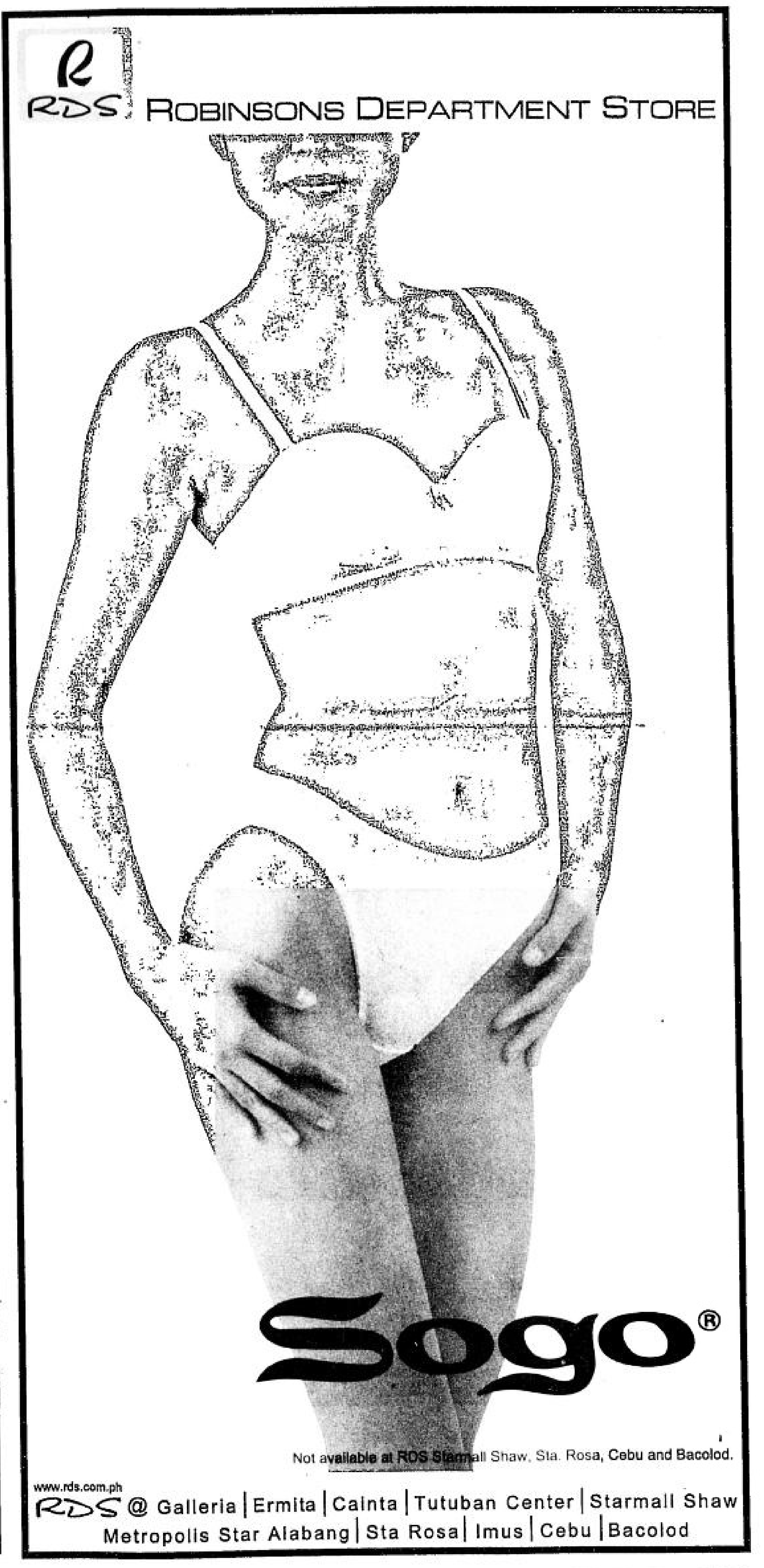

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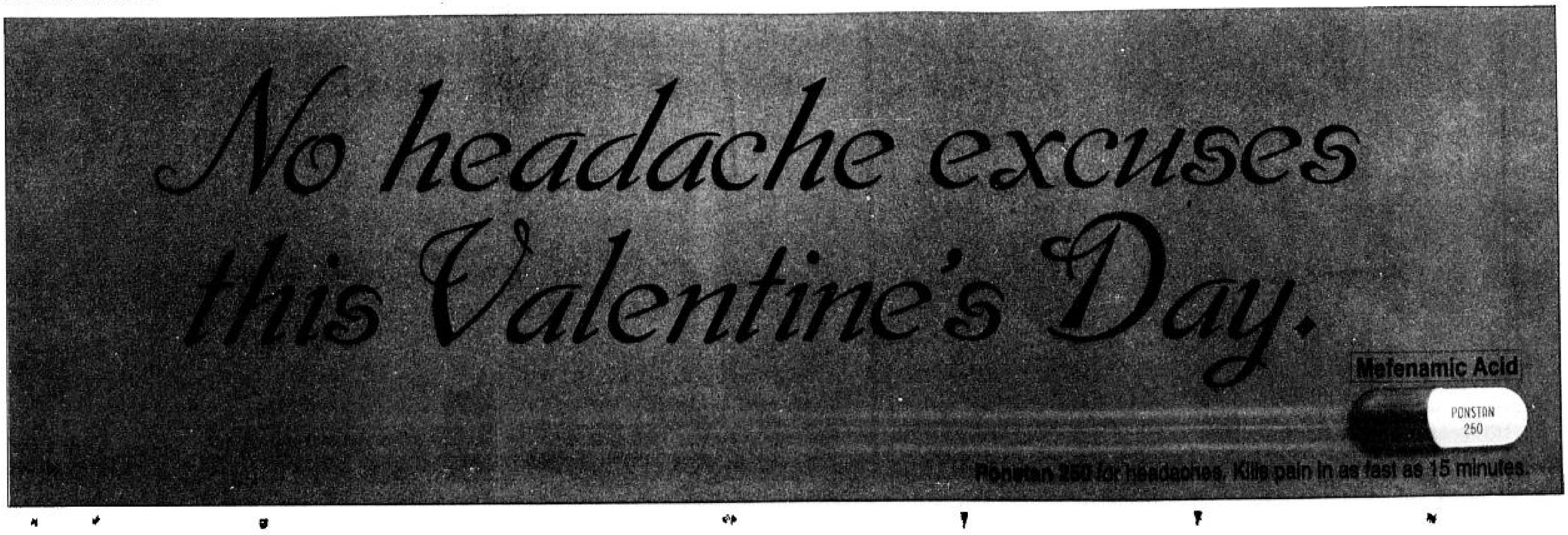

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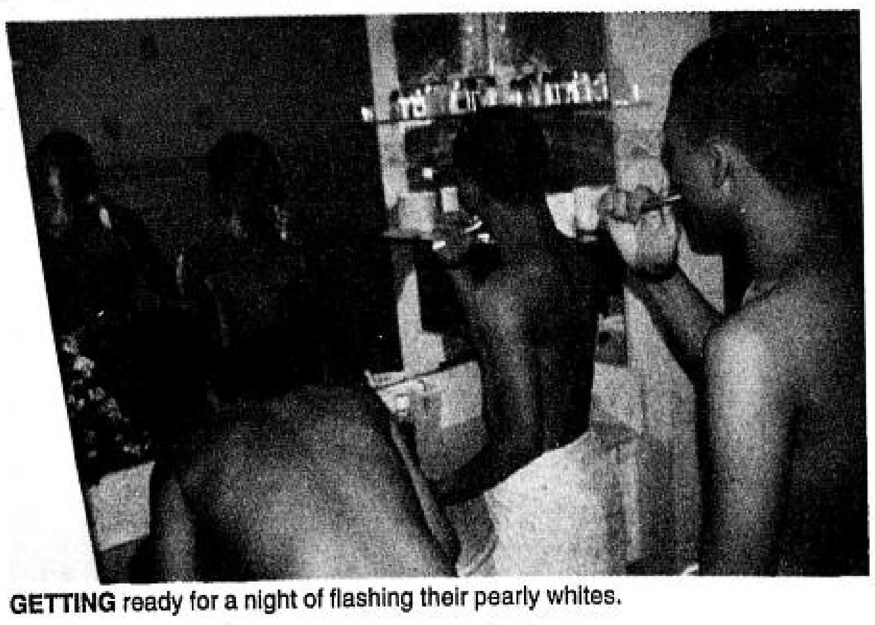
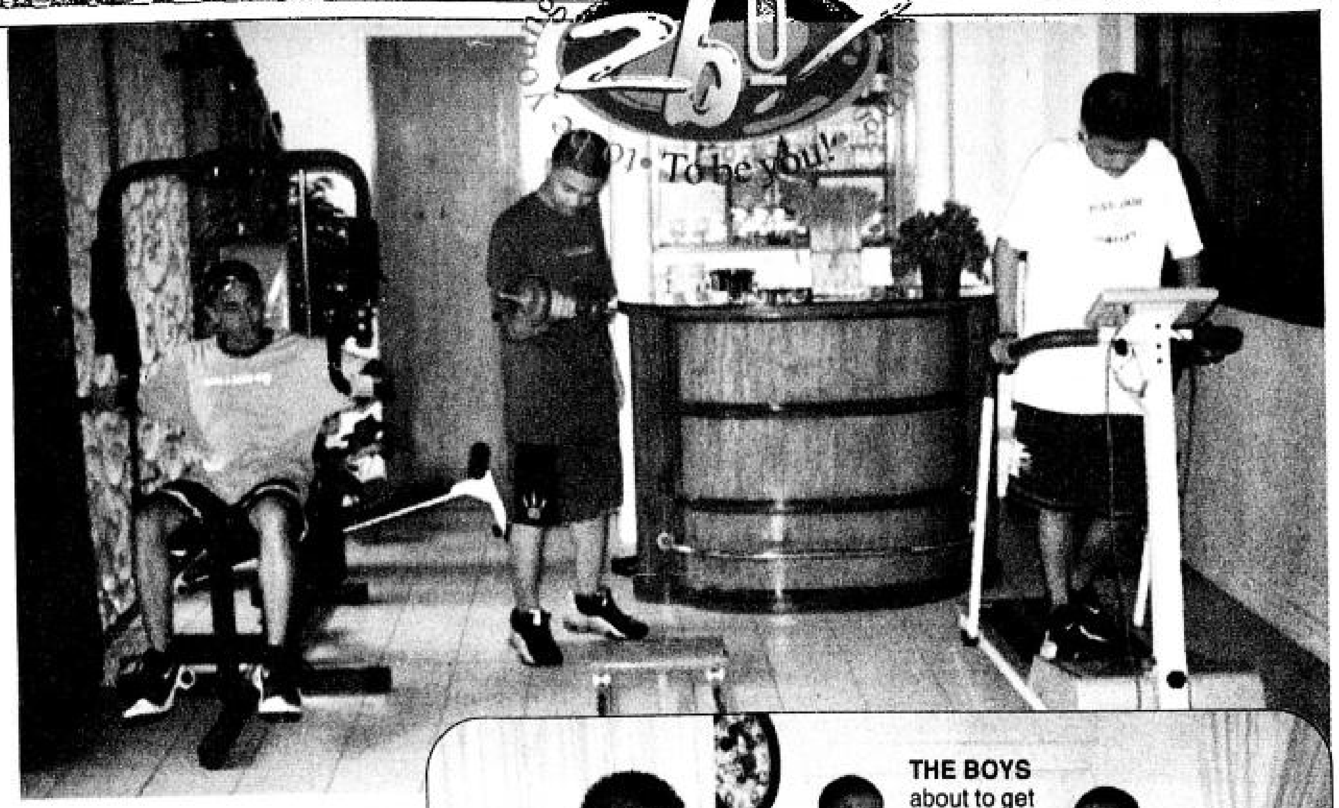


GETTING ready for a night of flashing their pearly whites.

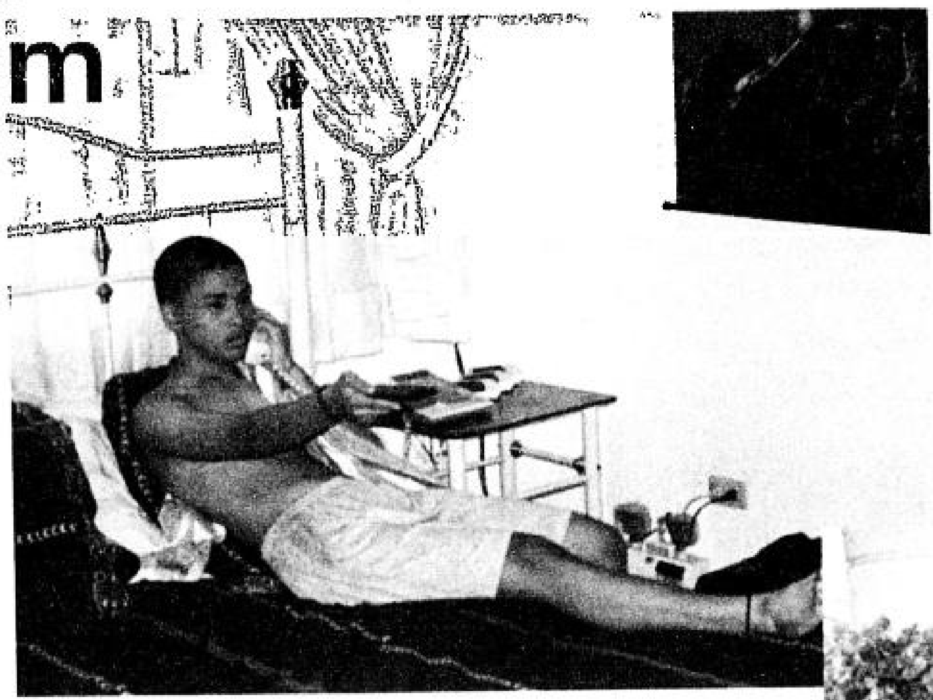


LAST minute workout session

Pretty boys of the prom

WE all know how girls prepare for the prom. They spend hours searching for the dress, shoes and accessories, the complete head-to-toe pampering and primping, the beauty sleep, etc. But how do boys get ready for the prom? They don't exactly need to spend eons of time having their hair blown dry, twisted and sprayed. They don't need to slap on makeup. Do they kill time by playing video games? Do they shoot hoops? These three juniors from Ateneo showed 2bU! exactly how boys get ready for the big night.

PRETTY/ p.G4



ARLO relaxes before the big night.

THE BOYS about to get all suited up.

The prom marks the birth of male vanity—as our eager male prom-enaders show.

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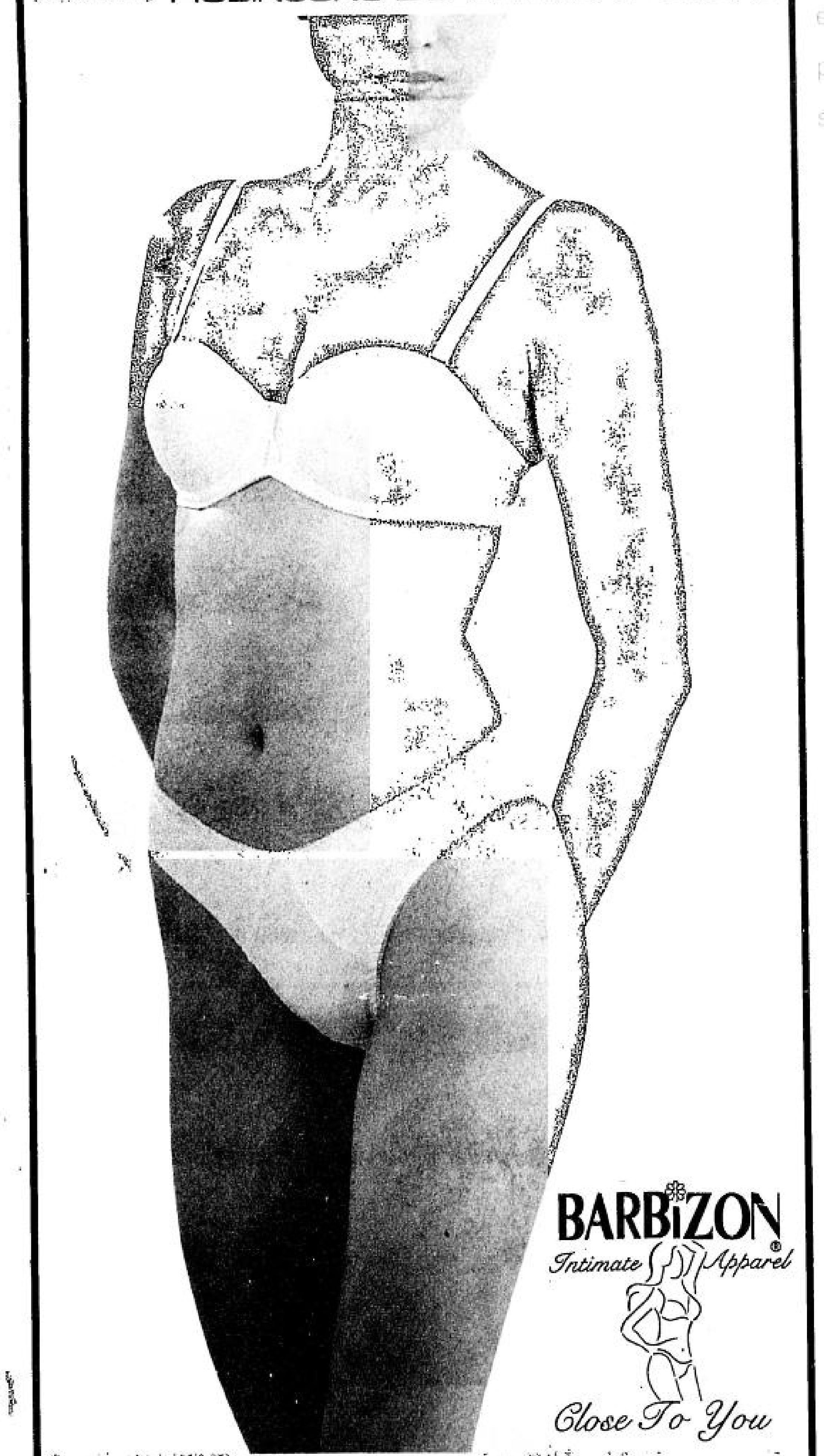

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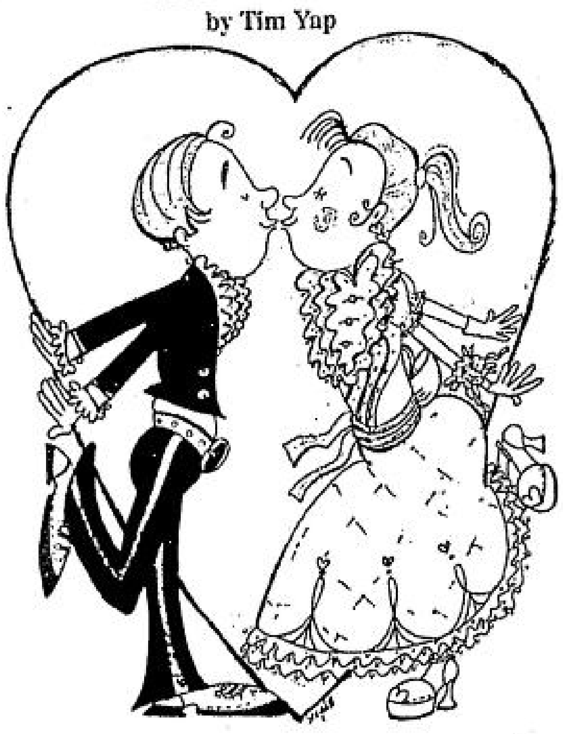
Cheezball Prom 2001
by Tim Yap



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The virtues of papaya and Meg Ryan

MAKE OVER 911

Kinny Salas

I HAVE noticed that since I started using a certain papaya whitening soap, my complexion has become not only more even-toned, but smoother, with less pimples. Will there be any side effects? Should I still switch to a medicated soap?

Linda

This makes perfect sense. Whitening soaps will cause your skin to peel lightly and dry up more to enable new skin to come out. This process is also known as exfoliation that is a procedure everyone except those with sensitive skin needs. If there are no discomforts for you such as itchiness, rashes and a tight feeling, by all means stick to this soap. I am a fan of exfoliation because I am one of those who believe that if there is nothing there to clog your pores, blemishes won't occur.

Who can pull off a Meg Ryan hairdo? I lost weight and don't particularly have a big face, but the Meg hair looks disastrous on me. Modesty aside, I look better than my cousin does, but the hairdo looks OK on her. I am not stupid enough to think I was going to look like Meg, but it makes my face look wide.

Ging

Don't you just hate Meg Ryan? It seems she can pull off any hairdo with that face. Talking to Joseph Tabile of Basement Salon and Tess Prado of Propaganda, they assured me that the perfect hairstyle has nothing to do (at least hardly) with being pretty or ugly. Take a look at Meg Ryan. She has a long narrow face with a pointed chin. Your cousin probably has a thinner face than you do. Personality and lifestyle have a lot to do with it as well. Just think, Nicole Kidman and Elizabeth Hurley have the right similar features, but the hairstyle wouldn't look quite right. Sandra Bullock and Julia Roberts have the right personality, but the look would just be off. If I were you check out an actress with a similar face, shape and personality and emulate her instead of adorable Meg.

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

I have a long face but I am sick of the chin-to-shoulder length pageboy I have been wearing for seven years. Please suggest a style that will suit me, but one that is as far away as possible from Prinsipe Abante or Prince Valiant. I have a big forehead and a longish chin.

Ella

Do you have an adventurous personality? You may just be a candidate for the Meg Ryan hairdo. Watch more TV and pay attention to hairstyles. If you want longer hair with no bangs, check out Sarah Jessica Parker. She keeps the top flat and the sides full. This gives the illusion of width thus making her face look shorter. If you don't want curly hair, keep the top flat but blow-dry the sides full. One useful trick is bending from the waist when hair is damp and blow-drying. Upon flipping head up just flatten the top and brush out sides carefully. Avoid flat, limp and too long hairstyles that will elongate the face further.

For any questions or products you want to road-test, write to Make Over 911, PDI Lifestyle or fax at 8974805

Fine dining at Ali Mall's Italian duo

TRATTORIA Uno and Le Café, Ali Mall's fine dining restaurants, are holding "A Toast for Two Valentine Package for 2" until Feb. 25.

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parent trapped

ms. merit answers

Q My 11 year old daughter has so many crushes. At such young age, I don't like her to become boy crazy. How do I begin teaching her the facts of life? JCD

I agree that this is indeed a very difficult time for you. And this will last a couple of years more. As parents, should we try to discourage this and put a stop to this? By all means, but with a tactical approach. Never say never or no or don't. These negative words sometimes stimulate their rebellious streak and widen the generation gap. Feelings are instincts that cannot be controlled and suppressed. The suppression of feelings is the root of negative traits that spring out later in life.

Initially, it would help by establishing friendship and trust. Be approachable and understanding, so you will know what is happening in their lives. Assure them that it is okay to have crushes at a young age. But it is not okay to consummate this feeling. Because there are many negative repercussions, i.e., their studies will be affected, they might do wrong things which they will regret later on in their lives, etc. Point out examples of the fruit of immature young love. Tell them that their ideas of a relationship and of a mate will still change. Talk to them constantly. Answer their questions. They will bombard you with questions and ask for solutions and answers. Be ready to give them the guidance they will need.

Then make sure your family life is a happy one. A lot of young people look for love elsewhere because they cannot find love in their family. Either their parents are too busy with their careers or busy fighting with one another. Fill out calendar with nice and fun activities your youngsters will enjoy. If they are busy, their minds will not wander astray. They will have less time to think about "Love", "The opposite sex", etc.

Lastly, tell them its okay to have crushes, but getting involved at a later age is hip and cool. Nowadays, it's not cool to marry young. These are what our grandparents did, but nowadays, people marry late. Teens want to be so in, cool and hip. So cater to them that whim.

Please send your questions to merit paper products, parent trapped, 88 Samson Road, cor MPL Road, Sucat, Muntinlupa City, or fax us at 02.842.1626.

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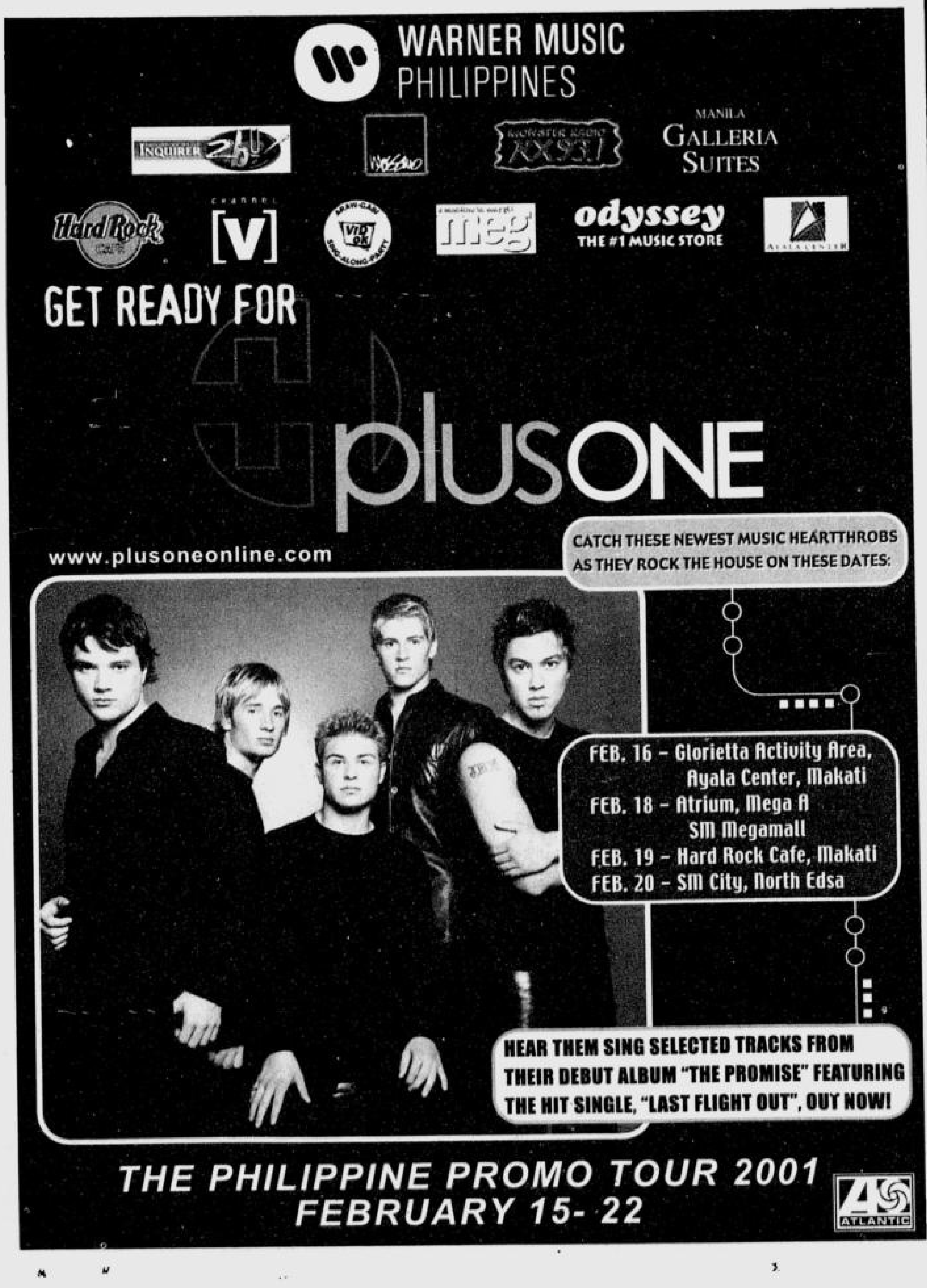
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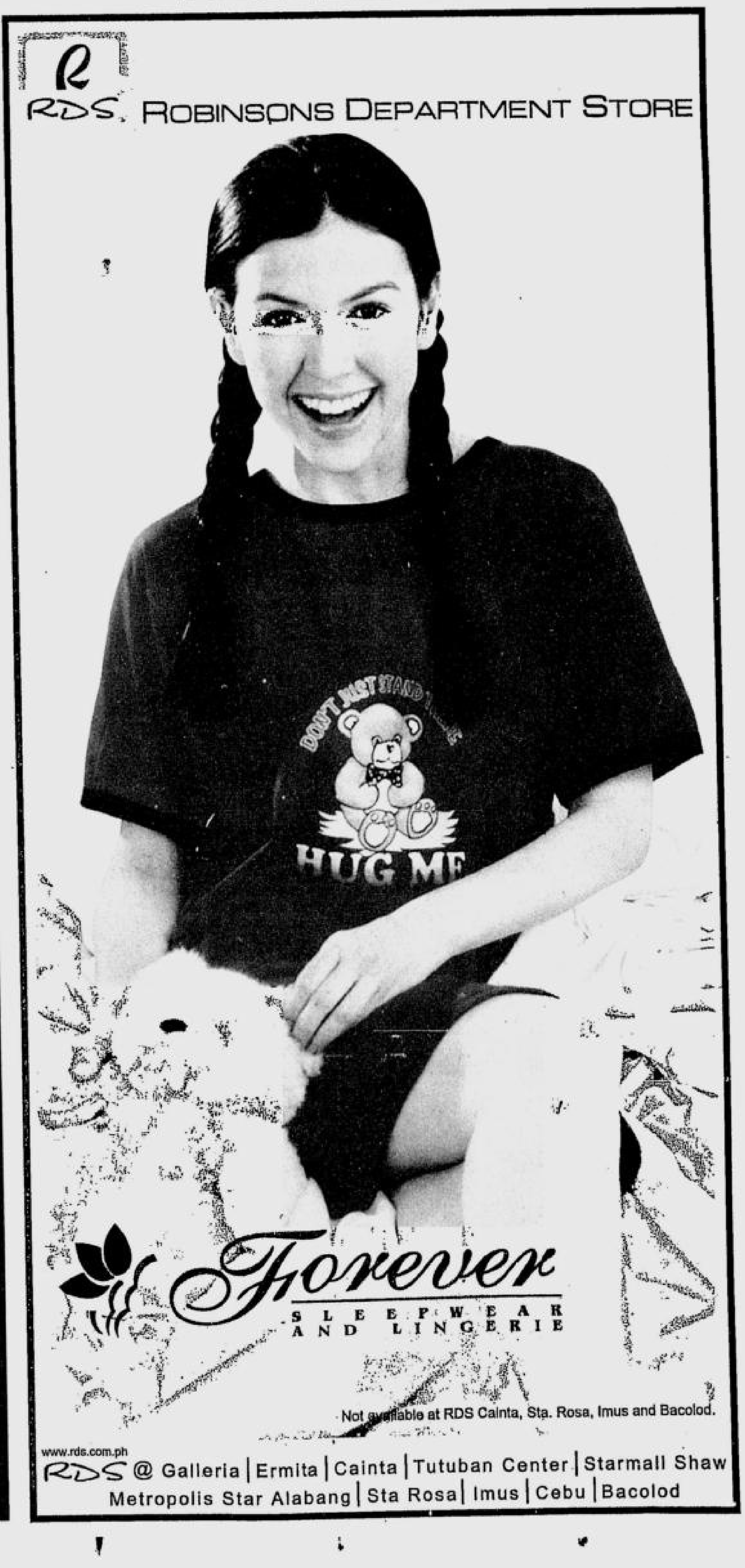
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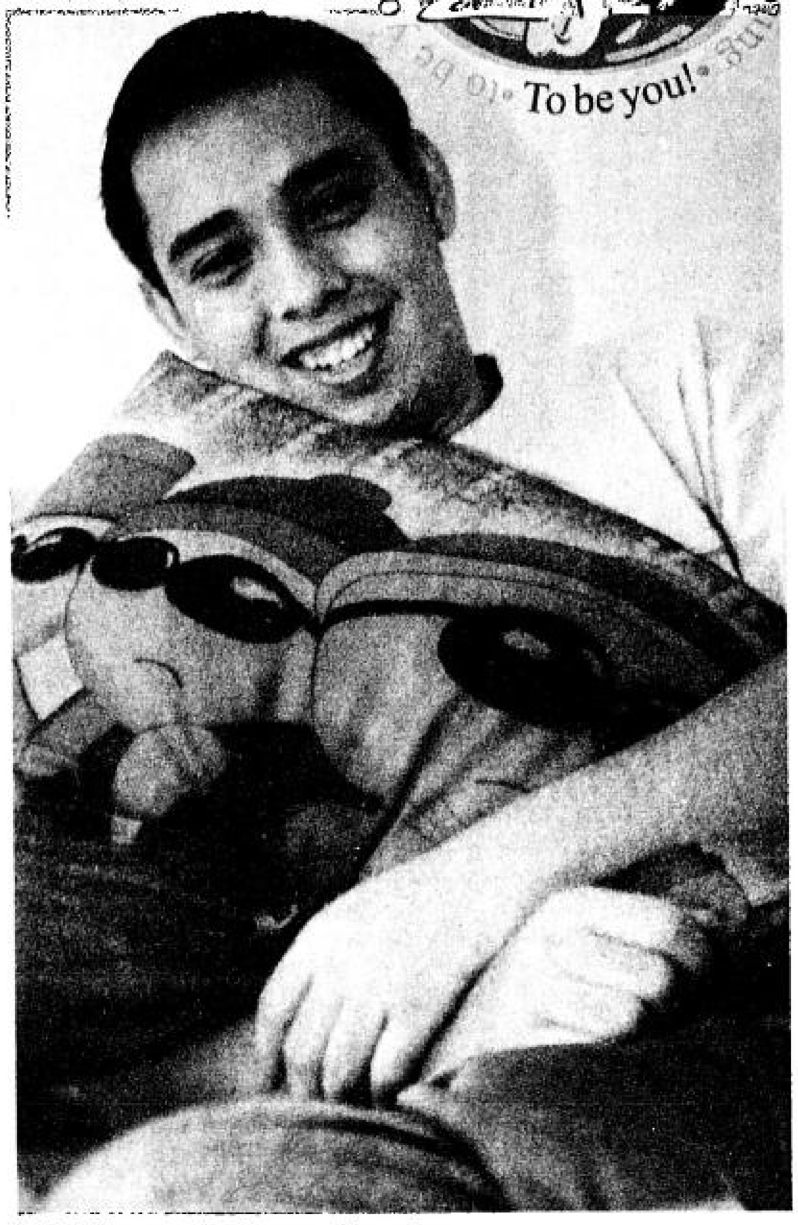
Pretty boys of the prom

ALL READY FOR THE PROM. (From left) Paolo, Arlo and Dexter

How do young gents get ready for the big night? Do they spend hours before the mirror? Do they worry about wearing the right scent? Do they get nervous at all?



DATO Macapagal gets cozy with a pillow.

First Son

(From page G1)

Pansol and Kaingin—because that's close to where we lived and grew up." A boy at heart, he also likes to tool around with the PlayStation. Naturally, he says, he also spends a lot of his free time with his girlfriend of five years, going to the movies or having dinner.

Close to three weeks since his mom's swearing in, the reality of the presidency has not quite sunk in. On that historic day on Edsa, Dato recalls thinking, "It wasn't real. *Parang* I was watching us on stage. It's like you're not really part of it. Surreal is how I'd describe the feeling." The impact though is slowly being felt by this youngest son who says that now they hardly get to see each other. Though Sundays continue to remain sacred for the family, Mom and Dad were naturally more accessible before the flurry of events changed their lives forever. "I don't get to see them as often unless I go there and I've only been there twice. One night I had dinner with my mom, the other night I had dinner with my dad," he says with a wistful smile. As of presstime, Dato, like Mikey has yet to move his personal effects to the Palace. The antithesis of his older brother, the younger Arroyo is less outgoing, more introspective but just as charming and good-looking. Clearly, like father, like son, another dreamboat in the making.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph

PHOTOS BY JOAN BONDOC

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REZ GOPEZ-SINDAC, Editor SPROJECTS@INQUIRER.COM.PH **APPLE FONTANILLA**, Account Manager

Spell-binding books of romance

Through their works, romance novelists Maia Jose and Gilda Olvidado strive to empower – not just entertain – the Filipino women

BY RAQUEL GOMEZ

IT'S the all-too familiar image: a man and a woman locked in perpetual embrace, their eyes closed as if in prayer, their lips just a breath away to a passionate kiss and you wonder – when will this couple on the front cover of every romance novel ever consummate that darn kiss?

The answer, of course, unfolds in each page of the book. And don't look now because the romance novel, which is now published in Filipino, has become very popular even among men readers!

Its popularity can be measured by how quickly this reading material is passed from one woman to another, of every class and standing, and read inside jeepneys, MRTs, while waiting outside doctor's clinics or in bus stations.

But why has the romance novel gained this popularity? Why can't readers get enough of love stories that always end happily? What's the magic and how does one create that spell?

Thanks to two Filipino romance novelists – Maia Jose and Gilda Olvidado – who have created this magical spell on women through their works published by Books for Pleasure Inc.

According to Jose, creating the magic or "*kilig*" involves many elements such as "idealized" characters that readers can relate to and even sexy scenes.

That's the most difficult, to create the "*kilig*," says Jose, whose real name is Maria Theresa Cruz Santiago. "It helps that you're in love," she adds, referring to her husband Jose who serves as her constant inspiration.

The sex part, she observes, triggered the most interest among readers, and so she began including this aspect in her recent stories.

"When I was beginning to write, my novels were safe. There were no sex scenes; it was implied. Then I noticed the sales of the novels with sexy scenes were strong. That needed to be analyzed because there was a message. Why it sells when it's obviously about sex?"

The message, she discovered, was perfectly simple: Filipino women are generally the repressed beings when it comes to their sexuality, and it's only through these private reading materials that they are able to explore their "sexuality."

"These novels have use," concludes Jose.

"They fill a need that's why they sell. If there's a need, *bakit hindi natin sagutin ng tama*."

In "Paula," a novel by Jose which is included in her "Abakada" series, a whole chapter is devoted to an amusing and steamy sexy scene initiated and controlled by the char

SPELL-BINDING/ G6

'MAGIC' writers Olvidado (seated) and Jose.

Photos by BETOY JOHNSON

OLVIDADO: My women are very strong, they fight back and win over the men.

JOSE: It's difficult to create the *kilig* factor. It helps if you're in love.

Happy Valentine

CLOSE-UP Love-a-Fair

11am - 8pm
Feb. 3 SM Megamall*
Feb. 9 SM City Manila
Feb 10 SM North EDSA*
Feb. 16 SM Southmall
Feb. 17 SM City Fairview*
Feb. 23 SM City Bacoor
*Watch LIVE Band Concert, 4pm

Feb. 14 SM Centerpoint 1pm - 5pm
LIVE Radio Broadcast only.

Cupid Kissing Booth
Meet, greet and pose for a souvenir shot with your favorite screen stars.

Marriage Booth
Walk down the aisle and renew your rites of love.

Jail & Handcuff Booths
Lovebirds are sentenced to an eternity of caged togetherness.

Dance Revo Booth
Dance the day away to the tune and steps of the latest rhythms.

Dedication Booth
Air your lovespeak via our DJ. Receive freebie statio pads, bookmarks and shirts.

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Hearty Pops
Receive free heart lollipops with your single minimum P300 purchase at participating stores.

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Date with a Star
Strut your wit and get a heaven-sent reward. The dating game winner gets a rare chance to spend a Valentine with a celebrity date.

4pm - 6pm
Feb. 10 SM Megamall
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BLUE NUN
While sipping wine, mall goers are serenaded by a string quartet to the tune of favorite arias and symphonies

11am - 7pm
Feb. 10 MegaStrip SM Megamall
Feb. 11 UGF Eastwing, SM City Manila
Feb. 14 4F Bridgeway SM Megamall
Feb. 16 3F Centermall, SM City North EDSA
Feb. 17 SM Southmall, Activity Center

SM SUPERMALLS
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Spell-binding books . . .

(From page G5)

acter who is a woman, and it really blows one's imagination.

Women "on top" one might say, but women's right of their sexuality is only one issue the writer incorporates in her work. There are also gay rights, vegetarianism, new age stuff, aromatherapy and other topics that expand a woman's mind.

She says her background as a student activist in UP is one reason why she writes in this manner. "But I'm not an extreme feminist, I'm not anti-men," she says.

Jose says her women characters are all "thinking women." "She can *be mataray, matapang, sobrang kimi, martir*, but definitely she's thinking. At some point, if she suffers, she will overcome that because she does some thinking."

Jose started writing romance novels in 1991 and she has written over 70 books. She got into this kind of work when she decided to become a full-time wife and mother to her children. Writing was the most doable career at that time since it can be done at home.

She went to a Bookfair affair and submitted a script to a Books for Pleasure booth. That led to an exciting career in romance book making. Aside from churning out at least one novel a month, she also does editing work for Books for Pleasure.

Pioneer

Olvidado, who's also a Komiks writer (remember the slew of *komiks*-based movies in the 1980s with such heady titles as "*Sinasamba Kita*," "*Dapat Ka Bang Mahalin*," and "*Kung Mahawi Man ang Ulap*" – she made those) is a pioneer in the Filipino romance novel writing.

She started writing for *komiks* at the age of 17 and it's only natural for her to go into romance writing. For romance novel, she has produced more than 50 titles.

Although a limited medium, romance novel is a challenge for Olvidado. She describes her style as "plotty" and "fast paced" and she always creates contemporary plots. She makes it a point to always put values in her work and also includes current issues such as politics.

"It's really more on values. I don't put too much sex in my novels. My women are very strong: they fight back and win over the men. But this is foremost an entertainment. That's why you have to incorporate the issues *na hindi* hard sell. You cannot preach."

With romance novels, Olvidado says readers expect the familiar story with the happy ending, but "they also expect something different from that familiarity.

"It's not easy to please readers, you need to excite them," she says. "When you excite them on the same manner repeatedly, they will get tired over your works. In a way there are a lot of challenges in writing romance."

How does she create the magic then? "The scenes are very important, you should know how to handle them, *kailangan marunong kang humagod*." She adds that the dialogue should be contemporary and easy to understand.

Olvidado finds inspiration from her two children. She says her love life is too boring to become an inspiration to write, but reveals her husband Ruben is her very "first" in everything – boyfriend, kiss, date marriage, etc. Quite a "talker," Olvidado says she wakes her husband in the middle of the night to talk about her plots and he listens intently.

"We're so proud that this is now part of our culture," says Olvidado of the popularity of romance novels that almost eclipsed the *komiks* industry. "We call it progress. Now we have people who really read and writers who are good. This field is just beginning here but we're making some progress. Who knows *marami pang pwedeng gawin*."

Opening the woman's mind to many possibilities is already being undertaken by Jose.

"That's what I wanted to be. *Yung pagiging entertaining niya, pangsagot ko lang yon doon sa binayad ng* reader. It's basic that you need to entertain them. On top of that mission, they learn something aside from just being entertained."

What gifts could be more intimate?

THIS Valentine's, give your loved one a more personal token of your affection. Hanes and Hanes HerWay underwear are the ideal gift items this season. Made from 100 percent cotton and cool cotton blends, Hanes and Hanes HerWay are designed to bring you the best in style and comfort.

For her

Hanes HerWay underwear has a wide range of products that will suit your needs and keep you comfortable all day, every day. Made from soft pre-shrunk cotton, HerWay underwear is cut to fit perfectly, wash after wash. Hanes HerWay allows the woman you love to be comfortable enough to be her natural, irresistible self.

For him

Show him you love him by giving him Hanes Boxers. The boxer briefs are made from 100 percent combed cotton and come in button fly with covered garter and regular fly with a wide sporty garter. On the other hand, the boxer shorts come in cool colors and designs—plain, plaid, or checks. He'll love you more in the cool comfort of Hanes boxers.

What gifts could be more intimate this Valentine's? Nothing, but Hanes and Hanes HerWay underwear. Love is lovelier when you're comfortable and people who wear Hanes products are definitely more comfortable with themselves.

No Fear: more than just a sticker

HAVE you ever wondered why you see so many vehicles with a "No Fear" sticker? The words No Fear strikes an emotional connection with the owners of these vehicles because for them, No Fear means having the courage to meet life's challenges head on.

But No Fear is more than just a sticker, it represents a line of apparel called No Fear USA that carry messages aimed at motivating athletes to perform to their fullest potential.

Founded in 1990 in Carlsbad, California; No Fear's philosophy has transcended the boundaries of sport and can be applied to life's challenges. No wonder then that No Fear USA appeals not only to athletes but also to men who believe in becoming the best at whatever task they set out to accomplish. If you wear No Fear apparel, you are seen as someone who is cool and has the courage and confidence to take on whatever challenges lie ahead.

No Fear apparel is made of the finest materials and fabrics. The No Fear product line includes T-shirts, caps, board shorts, jogging pants, jackets, bags, socks, polo shirts and denims. No Fear USA also offers professional motocross riding gear and competitive automotive racing gear.

Why not give your loved ones No Fear this Valentines Day? See for yourself and feel the difference of No Fear sports gear and apparel at Fusion Boutiques, SM Department Stores and other major department stores nationwide, or visit www.nofear.com.

Sbarro
Happy Valentine
Sbarro

SPECIAL MEAL

Sbarro, the Italian Eatery, has prepared a special meal for couples celebrating this special occasion. The meal includes a half-serving of Spaghetti with Meatsauce, half-baked Ziti with Alfredo Sauce, Garden Fresh Salad, dessert, two medium-sized Iced Tea and a special gift from Sbarro, all for only P348. Sbarro, the Italian Eatery, has branches at SM City, SM Megamall, Glorietta 2, Robinsons Place and Festival Supermall.

A COZY VALENTINE

If your idea of a perfect date is a combination of good food and music that not only soothes but will lift your spirits, (not to mention charming company, of course) then the place to have that cozy Valentine's dinner is at Light Bistro, 223 Katipunan Ave., Blue Ridge, Q.C. Enjoy live music to be specially provided for this day of hearts by PY Nakar and other Elim singers, and a choice of main entrees with Asian/Oriental flavors—pan-fried white fish ala florentine, chicken roulade, or grilled lamb chops with ratatouille—complete with appetizers, soup or salad for starters and dessert, coffee or tea to cap a wonderful night. For reservations, call 421-0640.

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Recommended for Geriatric, Post-Maternity and Post-Surgery Care & Hygiene

* Dr. P's new Antibiosis & Deodorization Layer effectively eliminates the infection-causing bacteria Staphylococcus Aureus (98.03%) and Bacillus Coli (65.29%), based on tests conducted by the Food Technology Development Centre of Taiwan.

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The diaper that knows adult care best

Expert adult care gets even better with Dr. P Adult Diapers' antibiosis and deodorization layer. Now, Dr. P not only keeps you dry, but also bacteria- and odor-free.

WHAT you don't see can harm you.

An ordinary adult diaper can keep you dry, but it takes more than just an ordinary diaper to be really clean and healthy. Harmful bacteria are found in great numbers in human waste. Because they thrive in hot damp places like the diapered area, these germs can easily multiply and cause skin infections and abscesses.

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Dr. P's added layer of protection also comes with unique deodorization action. A powerful deodorizer significantly reduces the pungent smell of urine and feces, and provides users with a cleaner, more comfortable feeling. Even with regular or prolonged wear, you're not just dry and bacteria-free, but fresh and clean too.

Expert in adult care

Together with its super absorbent layer, high-speed channels, wetness indicator and unisex contoured fit, Dr. P Adult Diapers definitely gives you the expert care you need.

For reliable dry protection at all times, Dr. P's super absorbent pad actively transforms wetness into dry gel, while high-speed channels enhance absorption of urine and ensure its even flow across the pad. A wetness indicator also makes checking for diaper soilage, extra convenient and more accurate. Dr. P also comes with standing leak guards that gently enwrap the legs to prevent side spills, adding to ease and secured mobility. In addition, Dr. P's unisex contoured shape is a perfect natural fit that provides discreet protection and maximum comfort.

Because the expert know best, Dr. P Adult Diapers gives you premium adult care complete with anti-bacterial protection.

Dr. P is recommended for geriatric, post-maternity and post-surgery care and hygiene. Available at all leading supermarkets and drugstores nationwide.

In the name of luck

BY REZ GOPEZ-SINDAC

IF YOU HAD desperately looked for true love or tried very hard to live harmoniously with your significant other, but failed big-time year after year, you just have to give up, right? Well, not so fast, darling. If you are a "monkey," "rooster," "ox," "horse," "dog," or "rat," this year (Year of the Snake) might just be your luckiest ever, so please, don't throw in the towel. For those under the less lucky signs though, don't despair. Give your dream another try, this time, with a little help from feng shui.

Feng shui literally means wind and water. It is the ancient Chinese practice of arranging a physical environment to maximize balanced energy or "chi." *Chi* is the energy that pervades all life. The purpose of feng shui is to identify the *yin* and *yang* (negative and positive) and properly positions you and your environment with *chi*, bringing you all the desires of your heart.

To benefit most from this ancient practice, you have to consult someone who has full knowledge of feng shui and who can help you achieve the desires of your heart.

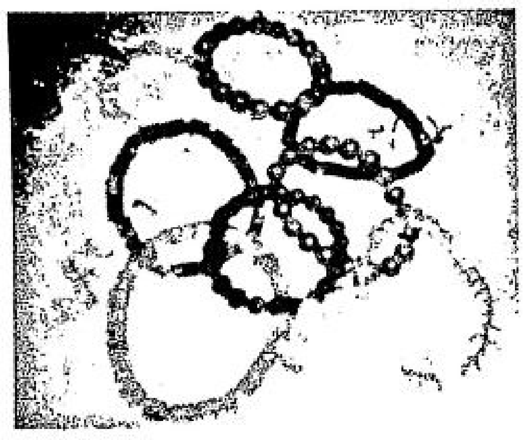
At the ground floor of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Manila is a small shop that sells a wide range of luck items. Clients come here to know what's in store for them for the whole year and find solution to areas that are unfavorable. For their secret and not so secret wishes, they are offered various lucky items that may help them achieve what they want.

The name of the shop is Yin & Yang Shop of Harmony. It is managed by the mother-and-daughter tandem of Baby Lim and Princesse Lim Fernandez, who are long-time friends of the late Paul Lao, a feng shui expert. It was Lao who "blessed" all the feng shui items that Baby and Princess put on exhibit every Chinese New Year since 1997. After Lao passed away, they asked Joseph Chau, a Hong Kong-based feng shui master to administer the blessing of the items.

A feng shui item has to be blessed, said Princesse, to give it more energy or *chi*. This sets Ying & Yang apart from other stores that sell the same items. "All crystals have energy, but when they are 'blessed' they become more powerful," explained Princesse.

Why these energy-charged objects are so popular can be attributed to the fact that Filipinos and Chinese are very superstitious. "They believe in luck," claimed Baby.

But not all people have basic understanding of feng shui, so they have so many questions, said Baby. Fortunately, more people can now know more about this practice of creating harmony through a booklet written by Chau which Yin & Yang and Mandarin Oriental give for free. The red booklet tells you under what animal sign you were born, your yearly and monthly forecasts and the areas where you are lucky or unlucky.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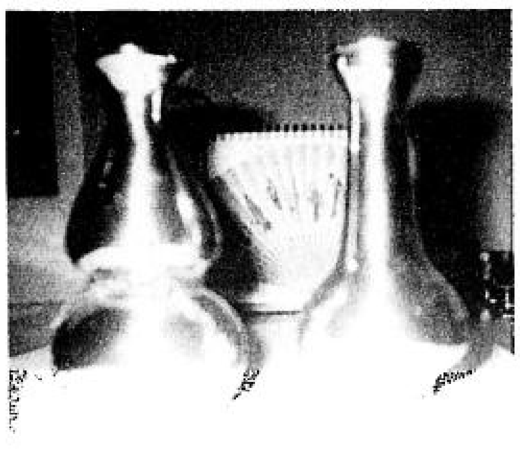

BRASS gourd vase (left) and long-neck brass vase

Clients are also given a list of items and the corresponding benefits they bring to the one wearing or using the objects.

Love luck

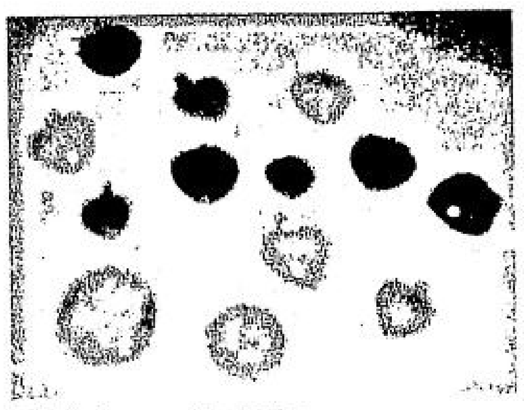
According to Chau's "red book," "horses" will have a brilliant love affair. Single "horses" will easily have a chance to meet a lover, but should exercise self-control, otherwise problems will happen. Single "monkeys" can expect romance to flourish. "Dogs" are very likely to get married for they can find their true love. The ideal life partner of a "dog" is "rabbit," "horse" or "tiger," but not the "dragon."

Good news to "pig" females – they may attract many men. Bad news – these suitors may include married ones, so "pigs" should remain sober when dealing with love affairs. Married "rats" may enjoy their family lives and expect many happy events to come. Single "rats," however, may be trapped in love triangles.

Single "tigers" are likely to meet their sweethearts and develop good relationships. If married "tigers" can avoid getting involved in love triangles, they may expect lots of marital bliss. And "dragons," well, "dragons" are always very lucky in almost every department.

Need help

Some signs, however, need help in the love department. "Snakes," for example, will not have a smooth love affair, and female "snakes" must be able to recognize and avoid the love trap. Married "goat" females will have lots of quarrels with their husbands.


LOVE stones and love coins

This year is not a good year for "roosters" to develop romance, so they better spend more time and energy on work or studies.

Love affairs for those born in the year of the Ox are not smooth, either – an intruder may appear between you and your lover. "Rabbits" may be very disappointed if they expect romance this year.

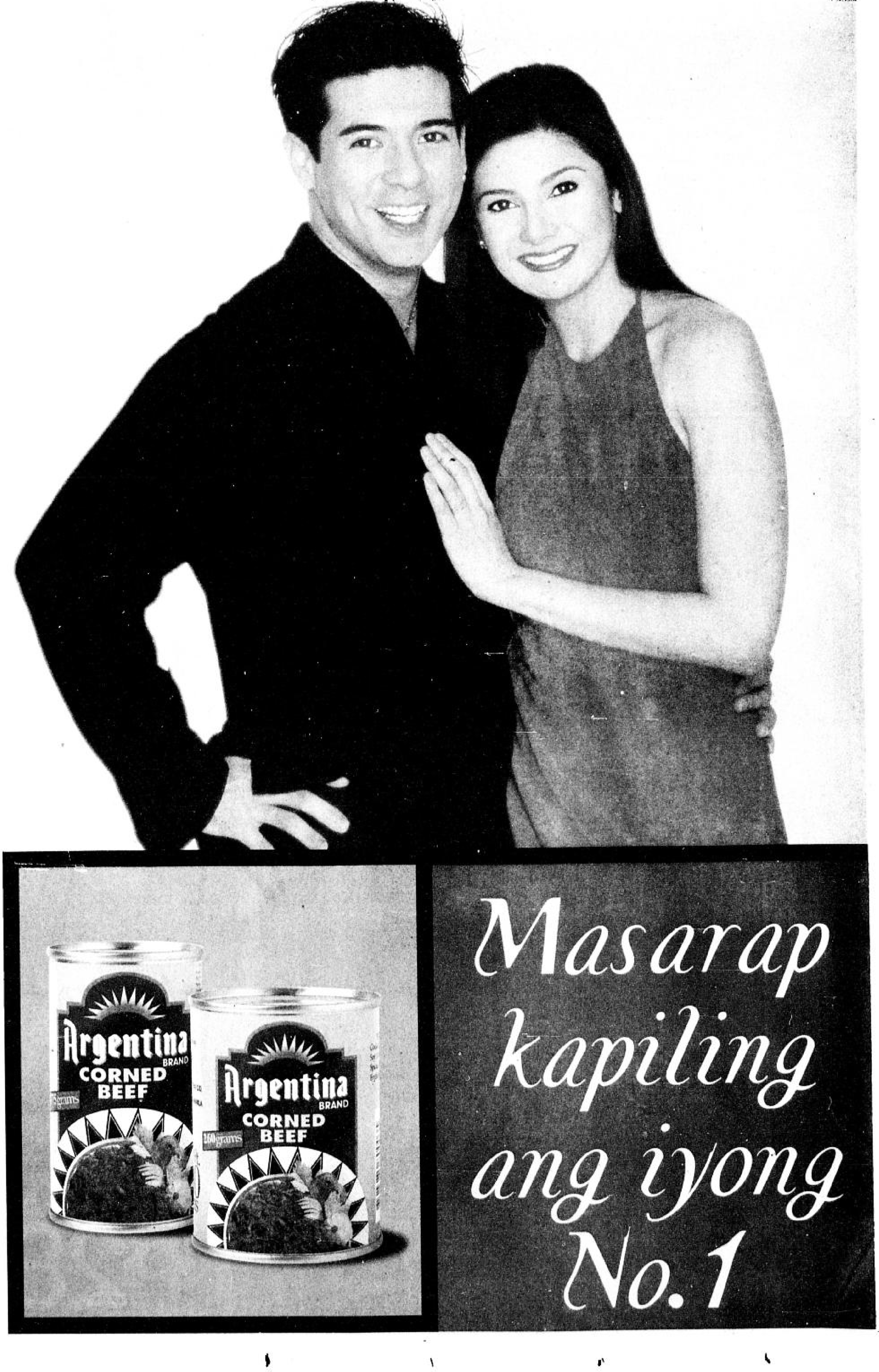
So what to do? Yin & Yang Shop of Harmony offers various luck items that may be worn around your wrist or placed in your bedroom in order to attract true love and harmonious relationship. Among these are:

Happy Couple – this is a figurine of two lovers seated together. Ideal for those looking for a relationship, or those who want harmony and faithfulness in their relationship. It comes with a special packet to be placed inside the figurine. Those who have bought Happy Couple swear that it brings about family happiness. The figurine is placed on the side table of the bed. (The main door, the bed headboard and the working desk) are the three major parts of the house that should be positioned favorably.)

Long-neck Brass Vase – good for single

IN THE NAME/ G8

EIGHT peonies scroll



Dunkin' Darling Donuts
P28

DUNKIN' DONUTS TREATS

Golden Donuts Inc., the exclusive Philippine licensee of Dunkin' Donuts of America celebrates this year's season of love with its Valentine treats, Dunkin' Darling Donuts. Three heart-shaped, half-dip chocolate-coated doughnuts for P28. These unique Valentine fancies are topped with heart and rainbow sprinkles to make it more special. Even the choco frosting is made extraordinary because Dunkin' Darling Donuts come in red, white and pink choco—the perfect partner for those Valentine roses. It's a really sweet and loving treat from Pasalubong ng Bayan Dunkin' Donuts. The Dunkin' Darling Donuts come in a lovely Valentine inspired box—great for your family and loved ones. So visit any of the participating Dunkin' Donuts outlets nationwide bring home your darlings Dunkin' Darling Donuts.

In the name of luck

(From page G7)

males who want to find their partners. The proper position is on the left-hand side of the bedroom. For best results, put a single fresh flower in the vase.

Brass Gourd Vase – good for single females who want to find their partners. The proper position is on the right-hand side of the bedroom.

Love Stones – these are real crystals in various colors. Choose pink if you're looking for a partner. Crystals possess energy and can be used as channels to achieve or program your desires. Love stones are like love coins, you carry them with you and they work best when they touch your skin. You can also put them in your palm and make a wish.

Wo Hop Pack – this is composed of seven pieces of red paper and is ideal for those who want to enhance their relationship. For married couple, it promotes faithfulness. Burn one pack a day to remove all the negative elements that bring discord to your relationship. But before your burn the paper be sure to write your name and your spouse's name on it, and make a wish. Put the ashes inside a can and at the end of the week, let the ashes fly away or bury the can.

Eight Peonies Scroll – If you're looking for love, hang it on your bedroom and expect love to bloom or be ready to hear a marriage proposal. One girl bought this scroll and on that same year got married. Her friend who had been waiting for her boyfriend of many years to propose to her, bought the same scroll and after a few months called to say that she's engaged. The Eight peonies is not only a symbol of prosperity but an emblem of love and affection.

Business is brisk at Yin & Yang and this can be attributed to the fact that so many people are very superstitious. It also shows that the items are working, assured Baby and Princesse, who started the business in 1997. "Our clients keep on coming back and they have so many good experiences with our items. Every time they come back, they bring in new clients, and this goes on and on," said Baby. The only problem is that they only sell every Chinese New Year when they join exhibits and fairs. And after the exhibit, clients were having a hard time finding them. Finally, Paul Lao told Baby: "Do these people a big favor. Put up a shop."

Aside from the love-luck items, clients can also find in Yin & Yang Shop of Harmony items that call in fortune, promote prosperity and career enhancement. For example, the Seven Star Quartz Tray is believed to increase your luck. It washes away the dark or poor aura to attract money and success and business prosperity. It is used to channel and energize wishes. Write your wish on a piece of paper, put the paper under the tray and expect your wish to come to pass.

Those who want to get better grades or pass important examinations can use the Jade Dragon Head Fish or the Jade Pagoda. If you want to conceive, try the Fertility Eggs, and if you specifically want a boy or a girl, see the Fertility Chart at the end of the booklet. To avoid criticisms and gossips in your workplace, use the Eight White Jade Coins, and for protection against accidents, especially car accidents, wear a Purple Sandalwood Charm. Made out of very rare purple sandalwood, this bracelet is ideal for those who travel a lot. It also helps alleviate pain from rheumatism. Order in advance as this charm is very hard to find.

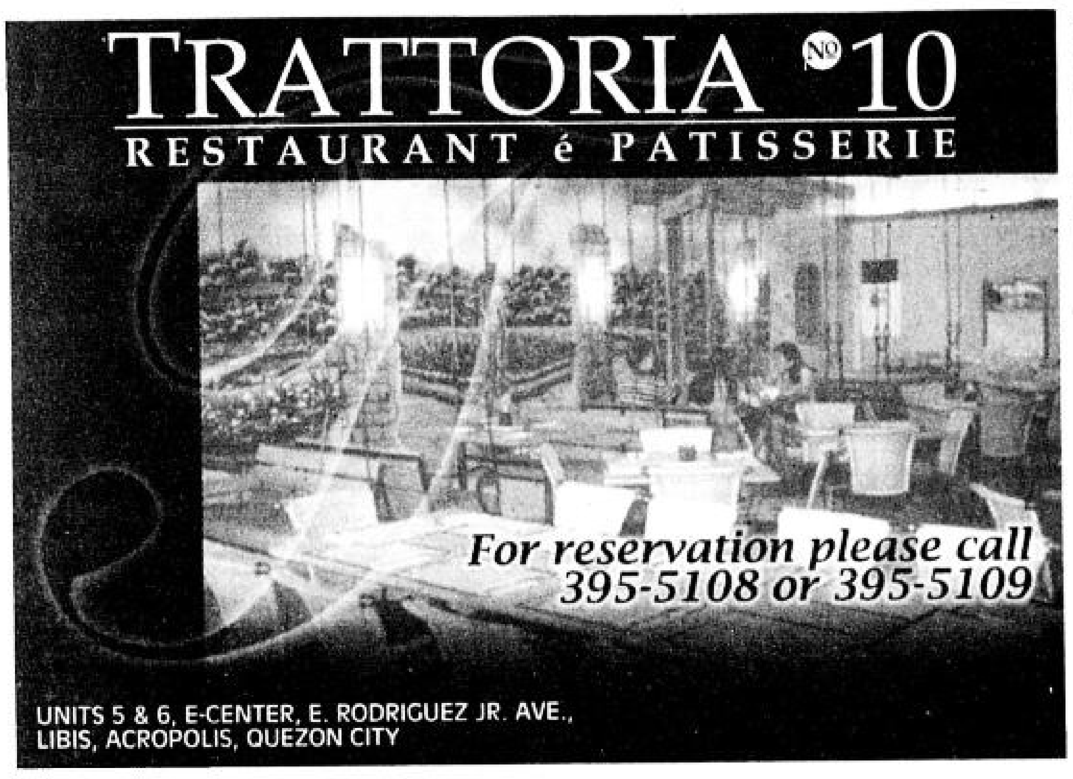
All these items and ornaments aim to harmonize the "Sha Chi" or to increase your luck. But make sure you buy feng shui items that are blessed, otherwise it cannot work to its full potential. For inquiries, call the Yin & Yang Shop of Harmony at 750-8888 loc. 2722.

A Valentine charmer from Chamdor

THERE'S a new sparkling way to celebrate a very intimate moment like this. First, discover the real character and identity. Open your mind to whatever unique qualities you may soon find. Let the spirits move you to a new aura and dimension. Then pour your heart out 'til you finally meet one that matches your taste. This is the Chamdor experience.

Chamdor Sparkling Bubblers is a refreshing drink that's virtually alcohol-free. Made from the finest grape variety, it has an irresistibly sweet and fruity taste. Manufactured and bottled from South Africa, Chamdor comes in three flavors perfect for people of distinct personalities. There's the Chamdor Rred, for instance, for the vibrant and the adventurous. The Chamdor White suits well with the ones with cool and carefree attitude. The Peach, on the other hand, is for the conservative type. Incidentally, red, white and peach are the same three most commonly used motifs for engagements, weddings, romantic gifts or even roses. The same high spirits can be found in every bottle of Chamdor.

So for those who wish to cherish romantic moments, reconcile individual differences, solemnize or renew ties of commitment, go for a real charmer with Chamdor Sparkling Bubblers. There will always be a reason to celebrate the good life. Exclusively imported by Louis Maclean Far East Inc. Call 716-7872 to 74 or e-mail us at lmfe@lmfe.com.ph.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HOME OF THE FINEST PASTAS IN TOWN

A casual Italian restaurant located at the heart of Libis, Quezon City, Trattoria No. 10 is home of the finest pastas and now, the talk of the town – orange braised lamb shanks gremoulade and grilled red snapper fillet with garlic confit and prawns. Constructed on a 270-meter sq. lot, its interior is surrounded by Italian wall paintings and the first innovative "swing chairs," that will surely satisfy your delicate senses. Ambiance is best described as cozy. Complimented by a house-blended coffee, wine and tea. Really a great place to dine and unwind. Trattoria No. 10 is at E-Center, Libis, Quezon City. For reservation, call 395-5108 or 395-5109.

cupid's dessert
DUNKIN' DONUTS
Pasalubong ng Bayan
This hearty season, give your darlings a box of **Dunkin' Darling Donuts**. Three yummy-licious heart-shaped donuts in a specially-designed box.
P28
Dunkin' Darling Donuts
Promo period is from February 1-18, 2001.
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